

SPRINGFIELD HOME
MISC.

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SPRINGFIELD HOME
FOLDER ONE

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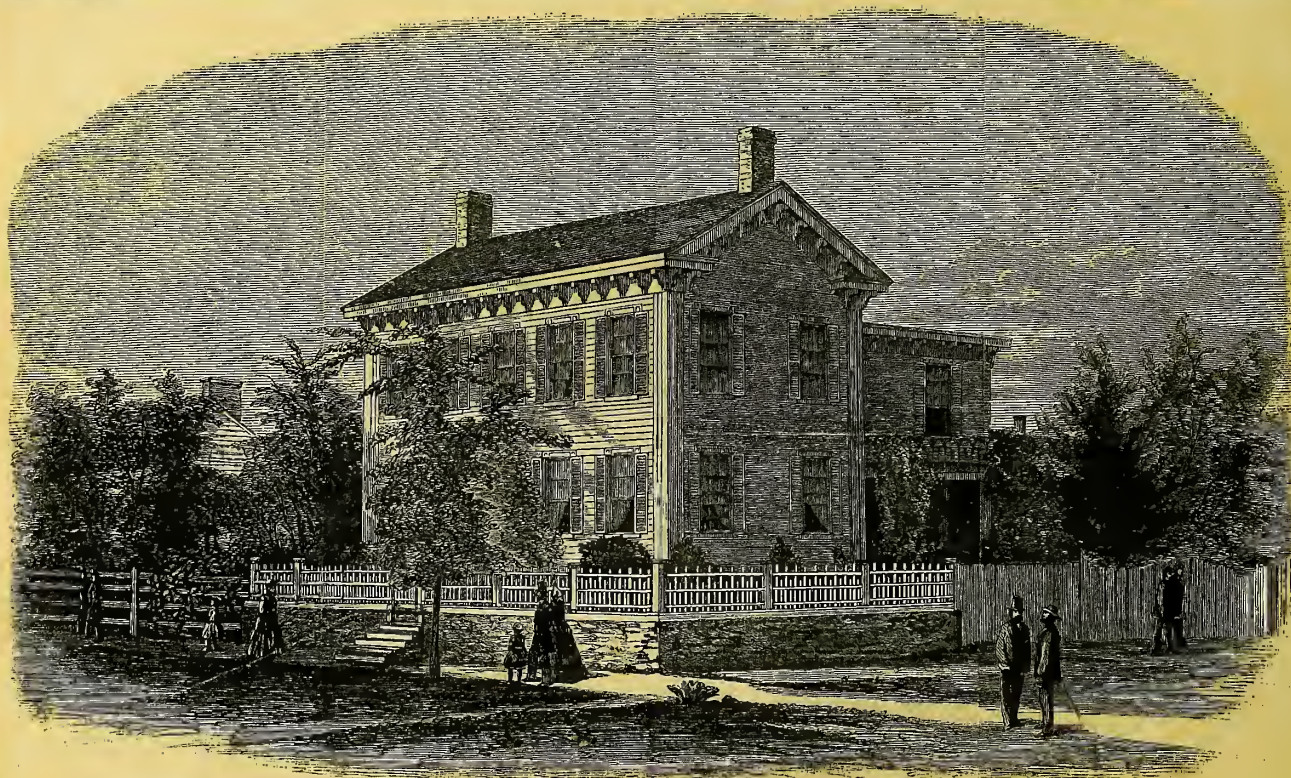
Illinois

Springfield Home

Miscellaneous (1)

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection



PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S FORMER HOME AT SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S OLD HOME.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S remains have been tenderly laid to rest at Springfield, his former home. The route, which little more than four years ago the then newly-elected President took from Springfield to Washington, has been retraced, under circumstances how different! Different as regards the terrible national drama of the last four years by what degrees of joy! Different as regards the *personal* drama in which our great leader has played, by what degrees of sacred sadness!

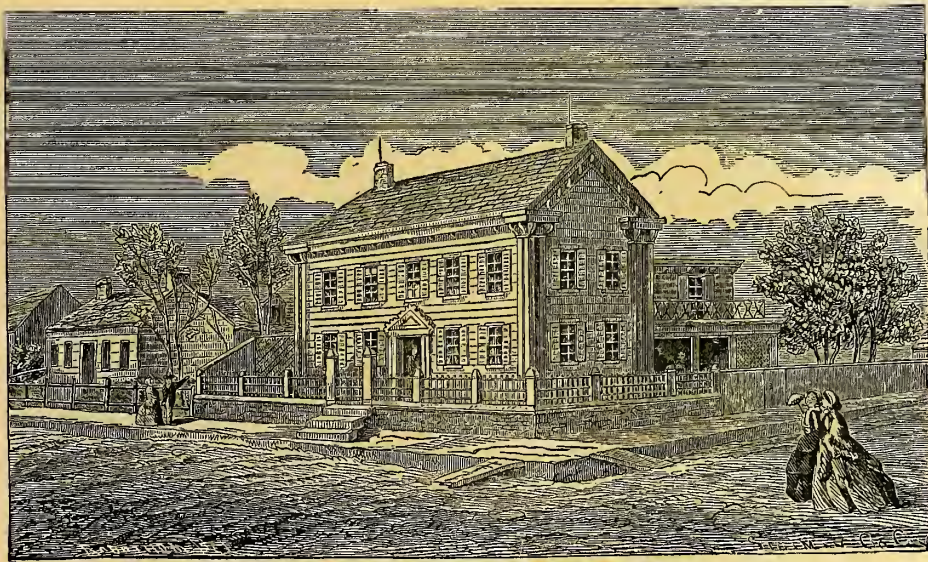
It was on the 11th of February, 1861, that President LINCOLN took leave of his fellow-citizens of Springfield, among whom he had resided for a quarter of a century. As he stepped upon the platform which was to bear him away he said: "I must now

leave you—for how long I know not.... I go to assume a task more difficult than that which devolved upon WASHINGTON.... I ask your prayers." How the people hung upon every word which that man uttered on that memorable march to the front! Only the historian, who shall record the loose and ill-weighted utterances of other prominent men at that critical period of our history, can properly estimate to what degree Mr. LINCOLN moulded and almost created the national sentiment which from that moment prevailed. His statements were made not with Jacksonian ardor, but with all the firmness of a Jackson, though couched in that argumentative style so peculiar to Mr. LINCOLN. His insight into the great problem of the time did for him, though after a quieter fashion, what the attack on Sumter only could do for the masses. He did not, like

Jackson in 1833, say to the South: "Submit peacefully or I'll make you feel what virtue there is in harsher methods of procuring submission!" He carefully guarded against menace, but he said, quietly and firmly: "I hold that the Union of these States is perpetual.... I shall take care, as the Constitution itself expressly enjoins upon me, that the laws of the Union shall be faithfully executed in all the States.... The power confided to me will be used to hold, occupy, and possess the property of the Government.... In your hands, my dissatisfied fellow-countrymen, and not in mine, is the momentous issue of civil war. The Government will not assail you. You can have no conflict without being yourselves the aggressors. You have no oath registered in heaven to destroy the Government; while I shall have the most solemn one to

'preserve, protect, and defend' it. We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies!" Nothing Jacksonian in all that; but something of more than Jacksonian stability!

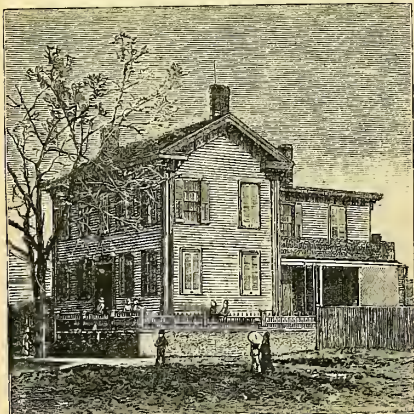
Four years have passed. LINCOLN has fulfilled his solemn pledge "to preserve, protect, and defend." Aggressive treason has been punished and crushed; and as the martyred President's remains moved homeward from the scene of his anxious but glorious career to the haven of his final rest, the people of the North and South triumphed in every stage of his last march did not forget, even in their sadness, that they had triumphed through him, their slain leader; and the very manner of his death disclosed to them the bitter malice of the treason over which they had gained the victory. They did not forget the anxiety with which they followed his



MR. LINCOLN'S RESIDENCE, AT SPRINGFIELD, ILLS.

THE LINCOLN MONUMENT.

THE LINCOLN home at Springfield, Illinois, was built in 1846 by the Rev. CHARLES DUSOT, who, in 1842, performed the marriage ceremony between ABRAHAM LINCOLN and MARY TODD. Mr. LINCOLN bought the house soon after it was built. It was a story-and-a-half cottage, and during one of Mr. LINCOLN's trips from home, Mrs. LINCOLN, as a surprise to him, had it run up to a full story, which so improved it that on his return Mr. LINCOLN did not recognize the



THE LINCOLN HOME.

place. In front of the cottage there still stands an elm-tree planted by this illustrious man. When he became President, the little homestead was neglected, and fell into decay. It has now, however, been put into habitable order, and painted white. Its original color was brown.

Being curious to see the law office of the firm of LINCOLN & HERNDON, the writer hunted it up. It was only a plain little room, but a tender recollection hangs around it, for up and down that room the young lawyer paced in his sorrow over the death of his first love, ANNA RUTLEDGE.

When Mr. LINCOLN was studying law he resided some distance from Springfield. On his way to the city he had to pass through the small village of Petersburg, about fifteen miles from the capital. He used to ride a stubby white horse. He cut a funny figure, for he used to take off his shoes and stockings, and tie them on to the back of the horse. With a book in his hand, his pantaloons rolled well up, and his long bare legs dangling over the sides of the horse, he was totally unconscious of the amusement he afforded the village children. One day the father of one of them caught them laughing, and said, gravely: "Children, do not make fun of that man. He is very talented, and you will live to see that he will make a mark in the world."

One of those children, a little girl, when grown to womanhood, was one of the multitude who pressed forward to see his body as it lay in state, and as she bent over the coffin, there flashed back upon her memory the recollection of the barefoot youth whose early days contained so much of hardship. Her father's prediction had been verified indeed.

Mr. LINCOLN's statue is a work of art. It stands eleven feet in height. Beneath the statue is the coat of arms of the United States. This statue was erected at the cost of \$13,700. At each corner of the shaft a circular pedestal

ten feet in diameter rises to the height of twelve feet. Two of these pedestals are surmounted by groups of statuary in bronze, one representing the Army, the other the Navy. When finished, there will be groups of the Cavalry and of the Artillery.

Oak Ridge Cemetery derives its name from a forest of oaks, and is situated about two miles north of the capital. Here lie the remains of President LINCOLN. They repose in a catacomb with an arched ceiling, and a marble floor twelve feet square. Upon one end of the sarcophagus is carved a wreath of oak leaves, surrounding the name LINCOLN, and outside of the wreath are the memorable words, "With malice toward none; with charity for all."

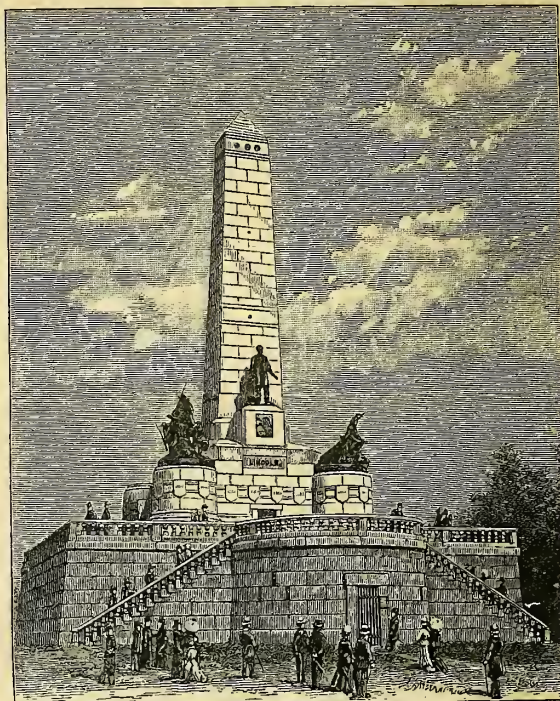
Two crypts contain the remains of Mr. LINCOLN's deceased children, and those yet unoccupied are designed for the remaining members of his family. Mrs. LINCOLN has often been heard to say that she will never be buried there.

Memorial Hall is a room in the monument, twenty-four by thirty-two feet, and is designed for the reception of memorials of ABRAHAM LINCOLN. Among those preserved there is a block of stone taken from a wall of Rome built during the reign of SERVIUS TULLIUS, and which was sent to the President by some Roman patriots. The inscription is in Latin, of which the following is a translation: "To ABRAHAM LINCOLN, President for the second time of the American republic, the citizens of Rome present this stone from the wall of SERVIUS TULLIUS, by which the memory of those brave assertors of liberty may be associated. Anno 1865."

IN THE SOUTH OF HOLLAND.

The scenery of Dutch Brabant has, of course, nothing grand or strikingly romantic about it, but in parts it is well wooded, and recalls to one's mind the pictures of HOBBEEMA. Rivers and canals abound, but, as a rule, the land is less flat and the landscape rather less monotonous than in other parts of Holland. There is a good deal of heath, and one or two large dismal morasses, but, on the whole, the country is not uninteresting.

The inhabitants in general are homely, industrious, and, as far as our experience goes, remarkably honest; the upper classes rather reserved, but most refined in their manners, and exceedingly handsome. We suppose the ladies here must have inherited their dark eyes and hair and their slim graceful figures from the Spanish settlers, but their brilliant complexions and delicate skin must have come to them



THE LINCOLN MONUMENT.

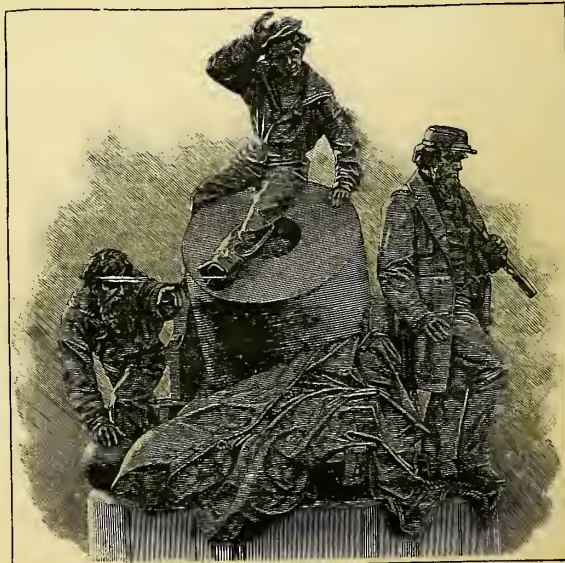
from their Northern ancestors. The most important towns in Dutch Brabant are Bergen-op-Zoom, in the extreme west, Bois-le-Duc, in the north, and Breda, near the centre of the province.

Bergen-op-Zoom is an interesting though rather dull old town, about two miles from the East Scheldt. It contains a vast old church, of a plan not uncommon in Holland, the nave, choir, and transepts all being the same length. Like most of the old Dutch churches, it is exceedingly plain, and ceiled with a wooden barrel vault, devoid of ribs or ornament of any kind. The nave alone is used as a Protestant church. The old gate is a picturesque object.

Breda is rather prettily situated upon the river Merk, where the Byloer falls into it. The view of the town from the banks of either of these rivers is very striking. The combination of architecture, trees, ships, and water is thoroughly Dutch. The Protestant Cathedral is one of the finest churches in Holland. It has a noble tower nearly 370 feet high; formerly it was still more lofty, but the upper portion, which consisted of two open lanterns of stone, placed one above the other, was destroyed by lightning at the end of the seventeenth century, and the present bulb-shaped steeple erected in its place. The church is rich in monuments. That erected to the memory of ENGBLEBERT the First and JONX of Nassau is a remarkably rich and intricate example of late Gothic work. In the choir are sev-



THE LINCOLN MONUMENT—THE ARMY.



THE LINCOLN MONUMENT—THE NAVY.

THE LINCOLN HOME.

One of the places rarely overlooked by visitors to Springfield is the Lincoln homestead, which stands at the Northeast corner of Eighth and Jackson streets. It is a plain frame structure, two stories high, and contains twelve rooms. It was bought by Mr. Lincoln in 1846. It was then a story-and-a-half house, but was subsequently raised to its present height. Mr. Lincoln lived in this house until he departed for Washington Feb. 12, 1861, to take the Presidential chair. During the war the house was occupied by a family of the name of Tilton. While the Tiltens lived there the house was open to the public, and during the four years of the war 65,000 persons called to see the home of the President. For eighteen years after the close of the war the house passed through different hands and its doors were closed to the public. A dozen or more families lived in the house during that period, and for a long time it was empty and deserted and became headquarters for tramps and thieves. In November, 1883, Capt. O. H. Oldroyd rented the house and at once opened its doors to visitors. He maintained the home at his own expense until August, 1887, when Robert Lincoln deeded it to the State, and Capt. Oldroyd was placed on a salary as the official custodian—a position which he still holds. The house stands today substantially as Mr. Lincoln left it. Some repapering and repairing have been done as an absolute necessity in different parts of the house, but no material alterations have been made, and two of the rooms are papered just as the Lincoln family left them over thirty-one years ago. A large room on the first floor in the southwest corner of the house is filled with Capt. Oldroyd's collection of Lincoln relics. There are over 2,000 relics in the collection, including much of the furniture used by the Lincoln family. Every year the Lincoln homestead is visited by thousands from all parts of the country, who revere the memory of the Great Emancipator.

N GLOBE-SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1899

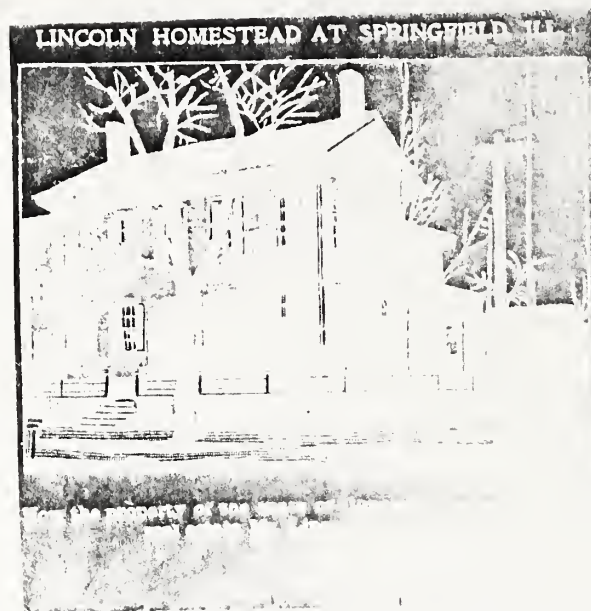
REEPLANTED BY ABRAHAM LINCOLN

in the Front Yard of the Old Home Place
Springfield, Ill.



Lincoln's Old Home. — A letter to the
Columbian from Springfield, Ill., says: —

The old residence of Mr. Lincoln was the center of mournful interest throughout the entire day of the funeral. With the appearance of the house which has now become historic, all are familiar. Plain, unpretending and substantial, it is the type of Mr. Lincoln's character. The shrubbery in front of the house, principally rose bushes, many of them planted by Mr. Lincoln's own hand, are in full leaf, and a beautiful rose vine clambers up one of the door posts, and trails over the cornice. Lilies are sprinkled here and there, and closely shaven trim grass plats run down to the neat picket fence surmounting the wall. The columns of the piazza at the rear of the house are also twined with vines and creepers, and the apple trees between the house and barns, showered the ground with the pink and white of the blossoms, and filled the air with fragrance. The house, which is now occupied by Lucien Tilton, was very heavily draped in mourning. The windows were curtained with black and white, the corner posts wreathed with evergreens, the cornice hidden by festoons of black and white looped up at intervals, and the space between the cornice and the door and the central window filled with the American flag gracefully trimmed. There is little of the furniture in the house which belonged to Mr. Lincoln. In the front parlor is a what-not and a small marble top table, on which was lying a beautiful cross of white camellias. In the back parlor, which he was accustomed to use as his study, is his bookcase. This was his favorite room, and here he toiled and wrote, unconsciously preparing himself for the great mission he was to fulfil.



Chicago 3/10/50

ATTEMPT TO BURN LINCOLN'S HOME

**Torch Was Lighted by Riot-
ers in Springfield.**

WOMAN PUTS OUT FIRE

**Discovered in Nick of Time to
Save Homestead.**

**City Comparatively Quiet Last Night
and Citizens Hold Meeting and
Pledge Support to Officials to
Maintain Law and Order—Out-
breaks Late in the Night Quickly
Suppressed by the Militia.**

Springfield, Ill., Aug. 18.—It developed to-day that an attempt was made late Saturday night to burn the house of Abraham Lincoln. A torch had been lighted and applied to the building, but it was discovered in time by a woman living in the neighborhood, and the fire was extinguished with little damage.

Everything is comparatively quiet to-night. There were several hot skirmishes shortly after midnight, but the rioters were quickly dispersed.

The prosecution of those guilty of outrages that have resulted in the death of six persons and the loss of thousands of dollars by fire and destruction will be unrelenting. State's Attorney Hatch to-day was pledged the moral support of every business and professional man in Springfield. Every assistance possible will be given.

Citizens Offer Support.

Citizens of the better element to-day decided to take a hand in the suppression of mob violence, when a demonstration of the most remarkable character ever witnessed in Illinois was held in the rooms of the chamber of commerce. It was a mass meeting of the chamber of commerce and the Business Men's Association, to which the public was invited.

More than 3,000 persons were in attendance. Public indignation over the rioters and looters of the last few days was crystallized in the utterances of well-known towns-people. At times the demonstration became so excited the meeting was unmanageable. Men offered their services by the score to the

authorities to aid in the re-establishment of law and order, and pledged themselves to defend with their lives their servants and property.

When Senator Logan Hay, son of the famous old Milton Hay, law partner of Lincoln, stood up in the back of the room and declared that he was the author of a resolution, "irrespective of color or nationality," the meeting went wild.

No Backward Step.

W. J. Butler, whose grandfather was governor of Illinois during war times, led in the declaration that this city can take no step backward.

"This resolution does not state enough," he said. "I am one of those who will go out on the streets to face the mobs. I will lead. This is the time when we men of Springfield should stand for law and order, no matter what the consequences may be to us. Let's go out and defy the mob. A few men could have stopped that mob last Friday. Look what you and I have paid for this temporizing. Of the dead, three are whites, and 80 per cent of the wounded are whites.

"They say this is regulating the color question, but it is teaching the negro his place. See what we will have to pay for it, in property, and our own city's fair name tarnished. The next mob may get me or it may get you.

Will Protect His Servant.

"I have received a threat that I must get rid of my colored servant. I want to say here I will keep him in my employment, and I will protect him to the last ditch.

"Let's go out and put down this rebellion. I am in favor of every man who lives in this city putting a card in his window with the inscription, 'I am for law and order.'"

The resolution as adopted by the meeting read:

Resolved, That we pledge ourselves to the earnest support of all officials whose duty is law enforcement, and to give all information and assistance to them to bring to swift justice all persons guilty of crime; and we call upon all good citizens to co-operate in restoring order and punishing all offenders, to the end that prosperity of the city may continue, and to show that Springfield is deserving of respect and confidence, and that it is a community committed to the enforcement of law and order and the punishment of all guilty, without respect to color or nationality, and that we demand that the life, liberty, and property of the citizens be protected without reference to nationality or color.

Some Washington D.C.
Newspaper for
August 18, 1908



The Lincoln Home, Springfield, Ill.



The Doorplate



A Family Item
(In the Possession of Oliver R. Barrett)



Drawn for The Christian Science Monitor from a photograph by Paul Thompson

Lincoln's House, Springfield, Illinois

"It was my great good fortune to know something of Abraham Lincoln from the time I was about twelve years old," writes Senator Shelby M. Cullom in his "Personal Recollections," "and even earlier than that I have a distinct recollection of hearing my

father advising men to employ Lincoln in important litigation."

"His home life was a pleasant one. I often visited at his home, and so far as my observation went, I do not hesitate to say that not the slightest credence should be given to the many

false stories that have from time to time appeared, manufactured largely by those who desired to write something new and sensational concerning the life of President Lincoln in his home, and concerning Mrs. Lincoln.

"Mr. Lincoln was regarded gener-

VISITS OLD HOME OF LINCOLN WHILE VISITING IN ILLINOIS

Mrs. A. C. Schulze and son Robert Louis and Miss Ruth Giddings who returned recently from a visit at various places in Missouri and Illinois had a very interesting and enjoyable time. While in Springfield, Ill., they visited the home of Abraham Lincoln and also his tomb! They registered at the Lincoln home, using the old-fashioned ink stand which stands upon a book-case that Lincoln used in his law office. They were escorted by a guide whose grandmother was a sister to Lincoln's wife, and she told many interesting things in regard to the candlesticks and furnishings about the home, where things are just as they were in the time of Lincoln. The visitors were also shown the cloth which was used upon the table at the wedding dinner, and the buffet on which the wedding cake was displayed. From the home they went to the Lincoln monument, and there a guide told them very interestingly of an attempt that was made to steal the body of Lincoln and of the sale of his birthplace. They saw some of the wildcat money that was in use at that time and also viewed the original copy of "America" which was given to Abraham Lincoln by the author. Some of the chairs used by Lincoln are kept within the monument, and little Robert Louis Schulze was granted the privilege of sitting on one of them, a privilege which in later years he will no doubt appreciate even more than he does at this time.

LINCOLN HOME TO LOSE MANY PRIZE RELICS

Ill State Register

MRS. MARY EDWARDS BROWN,
CUSTODIAN, TENDERS HER
RESIGNATION TO STATE.

1-27-1924

With the resignation of Mrs. Mary Edwards Brown, custodian, the Lincoln home is to lose many of its valuable relics. Mrs. Brown has already handed in her resignation to Col. C. R. Miller, director of the department of public works and buildings for the state. It is to take effect July 1.

For twenty-eight years, Mrs. Brown, who is a grand-niece of Mrs. Lincoln, has taken care of the home where the martyred president lived when a resident of Springfield. Day after day she has piloted hundreds of visitors through the house, showing them the rooms in which the Lincoln family lived, and little intimate relics which were associated with the family. Most of these relics belong to her personally and were only loaned to the state. Now that she is going, she is to take most of these with her. Mrs. Brown will make her home with a son at Elizabeth, N. J.

Some of the relics Mrs. Brown has now given to the state outright, while some of the others she will leave here for the time being. Among these latter is the candelabra which stood on the mantle in old Edwards' home at the time of the wedding ceremony of Mr. Lincoln and Mary Todd. They were married at Mrs. Lincoln's grandfather's home, Ninian Edwards. Another interesting heirloom to be loaned, is the writing desk and secretary which Mr. Lincoln used in his law office. It is at this desk that thousands of visitors to the home have been seated to sign the register.

The collection of Lincoln relics owned by Mrs. Brown is one of the most valuable in the world, being practically priceless. The most of it is now being packed and will be placed in a safety vault.

No successor to Mrs. Brown has been appointed by the state as yet, although more than one hundred applications have been received. The home will not be closed a single day, even if a successor is not appointed by the time Mrs. Brown leaves, as temporary arrangements will be made.

Mrs. Brown, in her resignation, declares that the work has become too heavy for her, there being so many daily visitors, and besides since her father, mother and sister have all died with recent years, she has been left alone, making it too lonely.

Mrs. Mary Edwards Brown, For 28 Years Custodian Of Lincoln Homestead, Resigns

Journal 6-6-24
Mrs. Mary Edwards Brown has resigned as custodian of the Lincoln home, effective July 1. Announcement to this effect was made last night by Mrs. Brown, her resignation having been made to the department of public works and buildings, of which Col. C. R. Miller is director. The homestead is owned by the state of Illinois, the gift of Robert Lincoln, son of Abraham Lincoln, a number of years ago.

No one has been chosen to succeed Mrs. Brown, though more than three hundred applications for the post have been made to the department. The home will not be closed, however, for a single day. Should a choice not be made by July 1, temporary arrangements will be made to keep the house open to the public at all times.

Task Now Too Great.

Mrs. Brown's reason for leaving the home, in which she has resided for twenty-eight years, is that the task of caring for it and receiving the constantly increasing number of visitors has become too great for her strength, in addition to the fact that it is now a very lonely position, due to the loss of her family within the last few years. Her father and mother and sister who resided there with her have died within recent years, leaving her alone. She in-

tends to rest for a while, going to the home of her son, Remann A.

Brown, Elizabeth. N. J., shortly after July 1.

One of the most important facts in connection with her departure from the Lincoln home is that the collection of Lincoln relics will be removed from the home. Practically everything in the homestead is the property of Mrs. Brown, heirlooms from her family, which was directly connected with Lincoln. Mrs. Brown is the granddaughter of Gov. Ninian W. Edwards, in whose home Lincoln married Mary Todd. Mrs. Edwards and Mrs. Lincoln were sisters. The

mainly of the writing desk and secretary which Lincoln used in his law office and at which visitors to the Lincoln home have registered, among them celebrities from all parts of the world.

The painting of Governor and Mrs. Edwards by G. P. Healy, and the candelabra which stood on the mantle at the time of the wedding ceremony of Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Todd, in the state historical library, has been loaned for the time, and placed in the custody of Mrs. Jessie Palmer Weber. The large mirror in the parlor of the Lincoln home which graced

furniture of the Lincoln homestead practically all belonged to the Ninian W. Edwards home, in which Lincoln courted his wife, where he was married, and in which he lived for a time.

To Retain Her Treasures.

The state of Illinois will take over a few pieces of the furniture, but Mrs. Brown will retain the most treasured collection. She is presenting a number of pictures of Lincoln to the state for the bare cost of framing. In addition, Mrs. Brown is placing a few of the most valuable pieces of the collection, consisting

the home of Governor Edwards is being presented to the state by Mrs. Brown and will remain in the Lincoln home.

Practically everything else is being packed by Mrs. Brown at the present time and will be stored. A trunk containing valuable documents and records will be placed in a bank vault.

Mrs. Brown's collection of Lincoln is among the most valuable and rare in the world. It is practically priceless and has been inspected by crowned heads, titled people and many famous men and women of many countries.

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See State Paper

LINCOLN HOMESTEAD SCENE OF DELIGHTFUL LINCOLN MEETING OF SPRINGFIELD WOMAN'S CLUB

Lincoln Homestead was the setting for a unique and charming program Saturday afternoon when the Over the Teacups department of the Springfield Woman's club held a Lincoln meeting there.

A bit of real atmosphere was transported to the home in the quaint, old-fashioned costumes worn by the performers and by the women who served tea at the meeting's close. The history of each costume added to its charm.

Mrs. Roy Ide, president of the club, presided and announced the coming club meetings, including an Americanization program to be held at the Centennial building on the 21st. Miss Virginia Brown was in charge of the program, and she gave a brief history of the home, which she described as having been built in 1839 by Dr. John Dresser, an Episcopal rector, who later united in marriage Abraham Lincoln and Mary Todd.

The home was bought from Dr. Dresser, and Lincoln lived in it until he moved to Washington, D. C. Eighty per cent of the original lumber is said to be in the building. Mrs. Jessie Palmer Weber gave a short talk.

A delightful performance was given by Miss Diamond Vadakin, soprano, with Mrs. J. H. Holbrook at the quaint old melodeon, which was placed in the homestead for this event. Both wore period costumes of the loveliest variety, and their music was greatly enjoyed. Miss Vadakin's numbers included the following:

Swanee River.

After the Battle.

Oh! Susanna.

Old Black Joe.

Drink to Me Only With Thine Eyes.

Old Kentucky Home.

Miss Brown presented the ladies in Lincoln costume, and their gowns brought forth expressions of admiration and interest. All wore gowns which were handed down from the families of Lincoln and Mrs. Lincoln.

Miss Helen Donaldson wore a quaint bouffant gown which was worn by Mrs. Lincoln at the white house. Miss Donaldson is a granddaughter of Mrs. Grimsley, who was one of Mrs. Lincoln's bridesmaids. Mrs. H. T. Morrison wore a gown and bonnet, the property of Mrs. Logan. Others in the old fashioned frocks were Mrs. Wirt Edwards, Mrs. Hay Brown, Miss Betty Butler and Miss Frances Patteson.

Mrs. Henry Abels was in charge of the tea, and Mrs. Roy Ide and Mrs. H. T. Morrison poured. The Formosa Oo Long tea served was a gift to Mrs. Ide in her capacity as

president of the club, from the Formosa government.

LIFE OF LINCOLN HAS BEEN WRITTEN BY MANY MEN IN MANY TONGUES

But Star Editor Gets Story From One Who Knows In- timate History

This is the second of a short series of articles written by Raymond H. Sellers, editor of The Star, telling of his recent visit to the old home and the last resting place of Abraham Lincoln, in Springfield, Illinois.

Journal Register 10-29-30
After leaving the old home of Abraham Lincoln, where for seventeen years he and his family lived and from which home they departed early in the morning of February 11, 1861, for Washington, D. C., where Mr. Lincoln was to enter upon his duties as President, we motored down the residential street upon which his house is located, through the business district, past the old State House where his body lay in state on May 3, 1865, out to beautiful Oak Ridge cemetery, a distance of perhaps a little less than two miles where on the highest point in the cemetery the beautiful monument is located and in the base of which are the vaults containing the bodies of Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln and members of their family.

We were told at the hotel that it would be useless to drive out to the cemetery as the memorial was being remodeled and we could see nothing. We were told the same thing at the Lincoln home by the young woman in charge there but we were determined to go and see for ourselves and shall always be glad that we did not heed the words of the well meaning folk who advised against our going.

Is Being Remodeled.

The Lincoln memorial is being remodeled, as the foundation on account of the soft earth on which it is built, had given way and the monument has been torn down for rebuilding. Huge steam derricks were lifting the heavy pieces of masonry from their places down to the level ground where they were numbered ready to be placed back once more in their original settings as soon as the base of the memorial is repaired.

The huge bronze groups, representing the four arms of the service, Infantry, Cavalry, Artillery and Navy, which originally stood on pedestals at the four corners of the memorial had been taken down and workmen were repairing and scouring them in readiness for setting them once more in their places when the remodeling work shall have been completed. One workman was using an acetylene torch to repair one of the massive groups. All the groups were shut off from the public with ropes and were covered with temporary roofing.

One is not permitted to go inside the tomb while the repairs are being made but standing on the north side of the memorial one could look through an open door where an electric light disclosed the beautiful interior. It is near this entrance and within seven feet of it that the body of Lincoln lies and where it will probably remain undisturbed forever. It was last placed there on September 26, 1901, following other repairs and additions made to the memorial. A beautiful floral design could be seen standing near the tomb. We were told these designs come almost every day from many different people representing many different nations. Afterward we saw a splendid design bearing the card of President Hoover and another bearing a card from the American Federation of Labor.

Meet Custodian.

We were told at the Lincoln home that if we cared to go out to the cemetery we might find Col. Fay in an old stone garage near the tomb where he had housed many Lincoln relics. We did not know where the garage was or who Col. Fay might be at that time but when we reached there we found the large stone home of the custodian of the memorial just a short distance from the tomb and beyond the custodian's home we saw a large stone garage and thither we wended our way. It was then we met one of the most interesting characters we have ever met and learned that it was Col. Fay of whom we had heard and that he has been custodian of the memorial since March 15, 1921.

The stone garage is a two story affair and it is fairly crammed with a most interesting collection of Lincoln relics. It also contains the private collection of Col. Herbert Wells Fay and is made up of more than a million items of interesting relics from many lands.

It is told of Col. Fay that his hobby is the collecting of interesting clippings from newspapers and magazines. These are pasted into books and he has long shelves of these books carefully catalogued according to contents. One day there was a visitor at the Lincoln memorial from Auckland, New Zealand. As soon as the visitors had registered he told them he had a book on New Zealand and taking down one of the volumes he turned through its pages and lo and behold there was a picture of the home of the very visitors who were standing before him. They, of course, thought this a wonderful coincidence but Mr. Fay seemed to think nothing of it so extensive is his collection.

A newspaper worker soon begins to resemble a human question mark, we sometimes think, for it is so natural in our calling to ply questions in order to gain the information that we must have in our daily work and we soon drifted into plying questions to Mr. Fay.

"Come down stairs," he said with a twinkle in his eye, "and I will tell you the whole story."

We had been in his upstairs section looking at his collection during the early part of our visit.

We were taken down stairs and seated in large leather upholstered chairs and there we spent the most interesting two hours we have ever spent in our lives. We heard the history of Lincoln in an intimate way from the lips of one who knows and loves the memory of the Great Emancipator and who has conversed repeatedly with many who knew Lincoln personally.

As he told his interesting story from the birth of Lincoln up through the years to his achievement of greatness we interrupted him once or twice and found it broke the thread of his discourse so we refrained from asking questions until he had ended and then he stated "you may question now."

One of the little story touches told by Col. Fay that I shall never forget was of a visit paid by Lincoln to his stepmother just before departing for Washington. He went to see her on horseback, a distance of some thirty-five miles, Col. Fay said. It was to be his last visit with her and he wanted to make the journey alone.

"What must have been the thoughts of that stepmother and stepson as they stood in their log cabin bidding each other a fond farewell," asked Mr. Fay. "Here was the boy she had raised from a mere stripling. She had believed in him and encouraged him and now, as president-elect of the great United States, he had ridden the equivalent of two days journey over muddy roads in the cold of February on horseback to tell her goodbye before going to Washington to take up his duties."

And Col. Fay sat with his fingertips touching as he looked off into space, giving us time to visualize the word picture he had just painted for us.

"Do you think Lincoln's father was shiftless and without ambition as some historians have painted him," was asked.

There was just a trace of a flare in his quiet old eyes as this question was asked but he quietly replied: "Lincoln's father built seven homes during his lifetime. We know

this to be a fact. Each home was better than the one before and all of them were either as good or better than any of the homes of their neighbors. How many of us can say that and does that sound like the work of a shiftless, unambitious man?" he asked.

He told us the history of the memorial itself. He told us of the long journey of the funeral party from Washington to Springfield. He told us of the attempt to steal the body of Lincoln back in 1870, a story we had never heard or if we had heard had forgotten. Some of these things will be told in subsequent articles but we want to tell you now what interested us most and that is that the body of Lincoln lies in its tomb, even if the memorial is being dismantled. Down underneath several feet of solid concrete in a metal vault are the remains of the martyred President.

The bodies of Mrs. Lincoln and two of their sons and of a grandson were removed when the remodeling work started but the body of Lincoln was not disturbed.

"Yes, I know where the bodies are," Mr. Fay said, "but the general public does not. They were removed on my orders by Springfield undertakers and will be brought back as soon as the repairs have been completed. The body of the grandson will not be brought back for it was ordered sent east by the mother, the widow of Robert T. Lincoln, whose death occurred but a few months ago."

"There is an interesting story about Robert T. Lincoln," he told us. "When he died in the East, we received a wire telling us that the body would be brought here for burial and we made preparations to receive it. We got no further word nor did the body arrive. We afterward heard that the body was buried in Arlington cemetery, Washington, but I have been told by friends of the family that the body is not buried there. As the widow has sent for the body of their son, you may judge for yourselves whether it will ever be returned here or whether it is her plan to have the body of Robert Lincoln sent to Springfield to be buried by the side of his father and mother. There was a rumor also that Mrs. Lincoln intended to keep the bodies of her husband and son in the East until after her death when all three would be brought back here for burial. These are only rumors however. Provision has been made in the memorial for them if it should be decided to bring all of them here," he added.

Warning to Hoosiers.

Just before bidding Col. Fay farewell, we asked him for a copy of Lincoln's farewell address to the people of Springfield when he left for Washington. The farewell was delivered from the rear of his coach in the railway yards in Springfield where thousands of friends and neighbors had gathered to bid them farewell. He told us that we could have a copy of the speech and delving among his pamphlets he found one containing the address which he handed to us. We asked him the charge for the pamphlet, expecting to hear "there is no charge but we are glad to accept whatever you want to donate."

How many times have you heard that little hint on similar occasions? Col. Fay however came back with:

"Whoever mentions money around the Lincoln memorial is shot at sunrise and I feel certain that you want to get back to Indiana," he said as he ushered us out. "And when you people over in Indiana complete that memorial to Lincoln's mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln, I want you to refrain from commercializing it," he said in a very emphatic voice.

Records show that approximately 150,000 people register as visitors at the Lincoln tomb every year. Perhaps not more than a third who visit the tomb take the time to register. That means that a half million people go to Oak Ridge cemetery every twelve months to pay tribute to the memory of a man. A man born in Kentucky, who spent the formative period of his life in southern Indiana, and rose to manhood in Illinois.

And it was while a resident of Illinois that fate, or destiny, or God, something or somebody, over which mere man had no control, swept the lean, lank, political, careful, more or less inexperienced Illinois backwoods lawyer into power, and war, and martyrdom and immortality.

2/11/34

THE MILWAUKEE JOURNAL



February 12

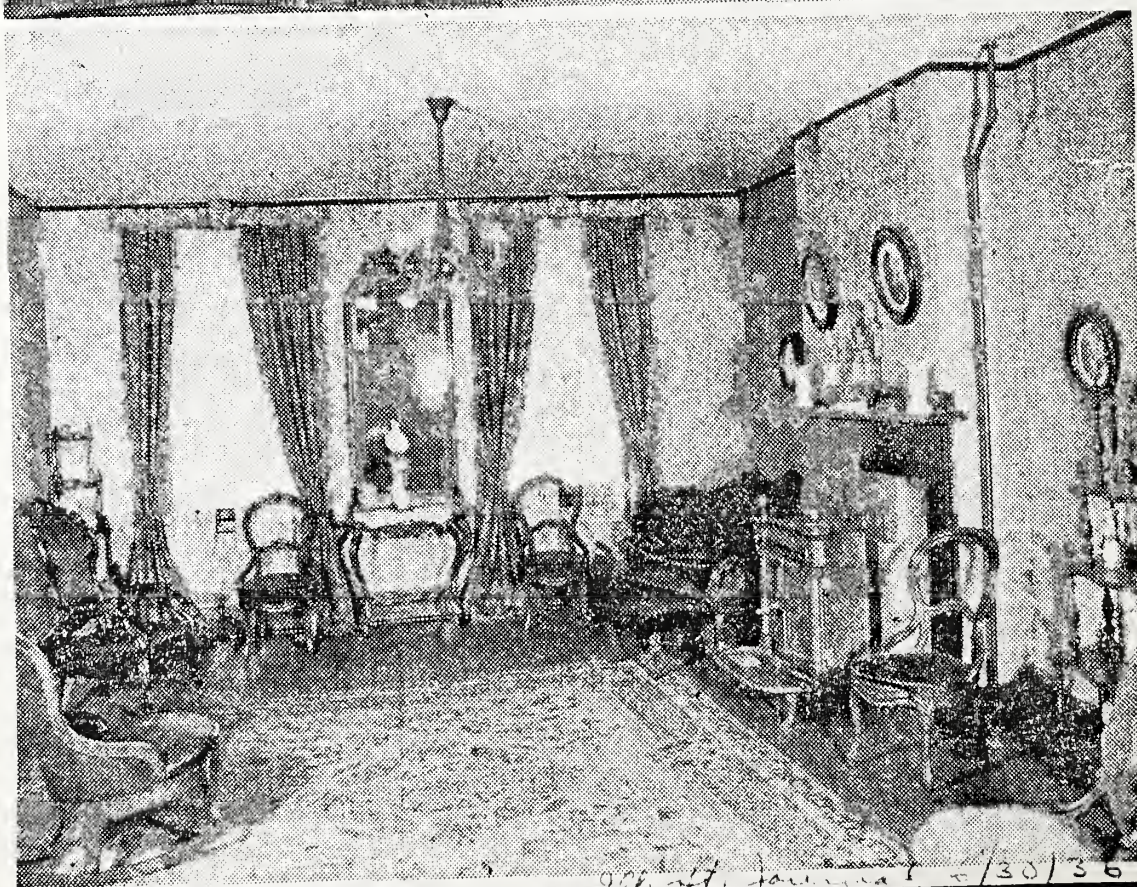
... a Grateful
Nation Again
Pays Homage to
Abraham Lincoln

—Photo copyright by Arthur
Hammond, Boston, Mass.



Lincoln's Home at Springfield, Ill.

—Photos by May L. Bauchle



Oct. 27. Journal 4/30/36



Home of Abraham Lincoln, Springfield, Ill., 1860
Tinted lithograph by Prang, 1865. Small folio, lower margin
trimmed. \$20

Goodspeeds, Feb. 1937

At Home with the Lincolns, 1844-1861



(Photo courtesy Chicago Historical Society.)

A composite photograph of the Lincoln family at Washington. Robert, eldest son, is at the left. "Tad" is beside his father, and William, actually older than Tad, is represented by the child at the right.

Their House Was Better Than Average Then

By JOHN A. MENAUGH

GATHERED around a dining room table marked by its simplicity of china-ware and tableware are three boys, aged 15, 8, and 5 years, and a most striking man. The boys are attired in the quaint manner of the times, spreading white collars covering the shoulders of the short jackets of the two youngest, and the eldest with his coat closely buttoned to his turnover collar. One does not say that these boys are greatly in need of haircuts, for at this time their long locks are quite in fashion.

The man, tall, gaunt, bearded, and with hollow cheeks, seemingly is careless of his appearance. His feet are in run-down slippers. His rusty black coat is wrinkled. His hair, of which he has an abundance, is not neatly brushed. But upon his face is a marvelous smile. Obviously this is a day that finds him in rare humor, for he tells one joke after another to keep the boys laughing.

The business of the four at the table, the father and three sons, has to do with the stowing away of a hearty breakfast. In an adjoining room two women fluster about an ornamental wood-burning cook stove, busily engaged in preparing corn cakes, pouring the batter on sizzling griddles and stacking upon a huge platter the cakes as they are baked. It is said of the tall man at the table that he can keep two women busy baking such cakes, so stupendous is his appetite for them. He eats the cakes with a relish, putting them away, between jokes tossed at the boys, in large chunks that have been saturated with molasses. The boys, like all boys in good health, also eat heartily.

... This is a scene that carries us back eighty years. The house in which this breakfast was eaten was a two-story, unimposing frame affair at the northeast corner of 8th and Jackson streets in Springfield, Ill. The amazing man who ate the corn cakes with such gusto was the lawyer and ex-congressman, Abraham Lincoln. The boys were his three surviving sons—Robert Todd, the eldest; William Wallace (Willie), and Thomas (Tad), the youngest. The women in the kitchen were the lawyer's wife, Mrs. Mary Todd Lincoln, and the Lincolns' hired girl.

Thus we have a fleeting glimpse of the Lincoln family in 1858, less than three years before it went to dwell in the White House. In question was the one occupied by the family for seventeen years. Today, as the property of the state of Illinois, it is a shrine of a nation, the people of which next Saturday will observe the 125th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln.

A description of how the Lincolns lived as plain small-town folk in the years before they went to the White House should give a better understanding of their natures, characters, and

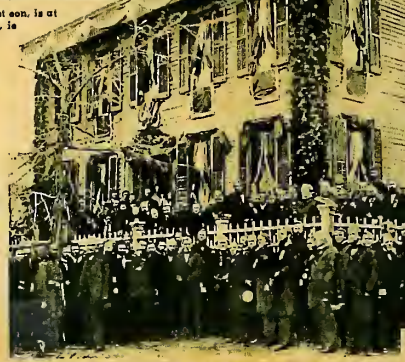
habits than any account of their necessarily artificial life as the first family of the land. That they were little if any different from other folk in their circumstances at that time is proved by the accounts of their home life which have been handed down to us through the generations.

When Lincoln, with his newly acquired license to practice law, moved from the village of New Salem to Springfield on April 15, 1837, he carried with him the worry of a debt incurred in the first-named place, where he had been both storekeeper and postmaster. This was a debt that weighed heavily upon him in the years that followed but which eventually was paid in full.

On Nov. 4, 1842, Lincoln married Mary Todd, daughter of Robert S. Todd of Lexington, Ky. He had met the young woman who was more than nine years his junior, in 1833, while she was residing in Springfield at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ninian W. Edwards. The following year they had become engaged, and in January, 1841, the engagement had been broken. The romance finally being patched up, the two were wedded in the Edwards' home and immediately went to live in the Globe tavern, a public boarding house in Adams street, Springfield. It was there on Aug. 1, 1843, that their eldest son, Robert Todd, was born.

Shortly after the birth of their first child Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln moved to a one-story frame house, the location of which today remains in dispute. One notable authority says the cottage was located in Monroe street, another that it was at 214 South 4th street. At any rate they resided in it only a brief while.

On Jan. 4, 1844, Lincoln entered into an agreement to purchase



The Lincoln home at Springfield as it appeared at the time of the President's funeral services. It is preserved today as a national shrine.

from the spring of 1844 to shortly before it moved to Washington in 1861. It was in this house that the Lincolns were living when their three youngest sons were born: Edward Baker (Eddie) on March 10, 1845; William on Dec. 21, 1850, and Thomas on April 4, 1853. Here also were they dwelling when their second son, Edward, died on Feb. 1, 1850.

The house, as the accompanying floor plans and illustration reveal, was quite modest even after its top half story had been raised to a full second story in 1856. Though boasting of nothing in the way of architectural grandeur and somewhat limited in space and facilities, it was far better than the average in the Springfield of the forties and fifties. Even when the Lincolns returned from Washington in March, 1849, after the head of the family had served a term in the house of representatives, Springfield was a town of only 4,500 people. Its streets were unpaved and unlighted, and hogs wallowed in mud puddles in front of some of the best residences. While Lincoln was in Washington as a congressman, it might be mentioned here, he rented his Springfield home for a while.

• A portrait of Abraham Lincoln, painted by William Cogswell, is reproduced in full color on page one of the picture section of this issue.

field home for a whole year to Cornelius Ludlum for \$50, reserving the use of the north room upstairs for the storage of furniture.

The house as originally purchased, and as indicated in the preceding paragraph, was a two-story and a half in height. Improvements made in 1856 included the raising of the second floor half story to a full story, as already noted. The Illinois State Journal of Jan. 6, 1857, set forth the fact that an "addition to the house on 8th street for A. Lincoln cost \$1,300."

Six years prior to this improvement of his house Lincoln decided to build a fence with a brick foundation extending along the front of his property and for a short distance on the Jackson street side. In a memorandum prepared by him on June 8, 1856, he stated that during the previous year bricks had been supplied to him for the fence foundation, so it seems likely that the fence was not completed until some time in 1855, or possibly later. The tall fence un-

doubtedly made the story-and-a-half cottage appear squat, a fact that might have been responsible for the decision to raise the half story to a full story.

In the yard of the Lincoln home were a barn, stable, the customary outhouse, and a woodpile. In the barn Lincoln kept his means of traveling from one county seat to another, his heavy-hoofed horse, Old Buck. Also in the barn was kept the family cow when it was not grazing on the grassy plots along the streets of the town. Lincoln curried and fed his horse himself, and took care of and milked the cow. He also was the master of the woodpile, cutting his wood into proper lengths to fit his stoves and totting it into the house to fill the wood box. As the reader already may have suspected, there was no bathroom in the Lincoln home at that time. Springfield folk of the forties and fifties, like those of other communities of that day, did not bathe so frequently as people do today, and when they did bathe they used a common wooden tub.

There were always two or three cats in residence at the Lincoln domicile, but it is not recorded that the family while in Springfield ever possessed a dog. The Lincoln yard was bare of flowers, although once, it is said, the head of the house set out some rose bushes. And only once did Lincoln plant a vegetable garden in his yard. It may have been drouth, weed, bugs, or merely a natural disinclination that discouraged him against any further activity in this line.

The Lincoln home was furnished in the midwestern fashion of the day. Various pieces of furniture, chiefly of the type that has come to be known as early Victorian, were set about the rooms after a strictly square and uniform pattern. There was a stiffness about the appearance of the interiors that was common in virtually all of the homes of the land at that time. Pictures on the walls definitely were not art, even though they were draped with fringed scarfs. Women of the times favored an abundance of knickknacks on mantels and whatnots, and motes and various gewgaws upon the walls.

Within this Lincoln home was at least the average amount of family harmony, despite the fact that Mrs. Lincoln frequently displayed violent outbursts of temper

Drawing of the Lincoln front parlor in Springfield at the time of his first election.

days, was called a hired girl. But they had great difficulty in keeping their hired girls. Mrs. Lincoln quarreled with them and they quit or threatened to quit. In these cases it was Lincoln who smoothed things over. He usually took the side of the hired girl, but he was always tactful in the matter, for he feared the wrath of his wife. It is said that on one occasion he induced a hired girl to remain in his employ by secretly paying her a dollar a week extra.

The Lincoln table more often than not was scantily supplied with food, despite the fact that the master of the house was a hearty eater. He preferred simple fare, such as the corn cakes mentioned in the beginning of

out of sheer strength of personality. When his legal duties permitted him to remain in Springfield he spent a majority of his evenings in his own home. Returning from his office of an evening, he would shed his coat, his necktie, and his shoes and stretch out in comfort on the floor. As a further concession to comfort he generally would slip one of his suspended straps off a shoulder, going about with his pants held up by only one "gallus," as he called it. When visitors would knock at the door Lincoln would greet them in his stocking feet.

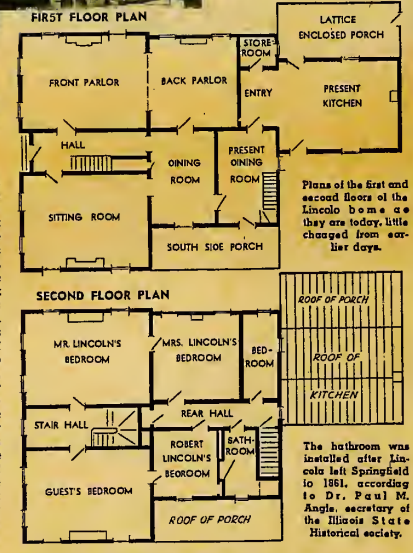
As pointed out before, Lincoln was fond of sentimental verse. He also was an avid reader of the newspapers. His favorite form of entertainment was a Negro minstrel. He generally attended alone.

To meet the expenses incurred by his family, to keep up his house, and to pay for his traveling about the country, Lincoln, of course, had his fees as a lawyer to fall back upon. The late Senator Albert J. Beveridge, in writing about attorneys' fees of the forties and fifties in his biography of Lincoln, says that they were usually from \$10 to \$50, since the general run of cases and the work required deserved no greater compensation. Clients as a rule gave their notes to cover the amounts of the fees, and these easily were sold at a moderate discount by the lawyers to storekeepers and proprietors of taverns.

... Although Lincoln's early years in Springfield were lean ones indeed, the last decade that he dwelt there revealed him as a man of substance. In fact, for the times he came to be considered as quite prosperous. In addition to his income as a lawyer he is believed to have made some money in dealing in real estate on a relatively modest scale. At one time or another he was the owner of considerable real property, and whenever he obtained surplus funds he invested them conservatively but profitably. At the time he was nominated for the presidency he was worth in excess of \$10,000, a respectable sum for the period.

Lincoln frequently lent money, occasionally making loans without taking mortgages for security. His largest loan was made in 1859, when he lent to Norman B. Judd of Chicago the sum of \$3,000. The loan was for five years and carried an interest rate of 10 per cent a year. It was not paid off, however, until after the death of Lincoln. At the time of his leaving Springfield to become President, Lincoln had \$4,430 invested in mortgages and personal notes, a number of pieces of real estate, and \$500 in cash in a bank.

For the benefit of those who may wonder what happened to the sons of Lincoln: Edward Baker Lincoln, as previously mentioned, died Feb. 1, 1850, while the family was residing in Springfield. Ephraim was the cause of his death. William Wallace Lincoln died Feb. 20, 1852, while his father was President. He died of an acute malarial infection. Thomas Lincoln, better known as Tad, lived to be 18 years old, dying of pleurisy on July 15, 1871. Robert Todd Lincoln, the eldest son, survived until July 25, 1926. He was nearly 83 years old when he died. Mrs. Lincoln, the widow, died July 16, 1882.



Plans of the first and second floors of the Lincoln home as they are today, little changed since earlier days.

The bathroom was installed after Lincoln left Springfield in 1861, according to Dr. Paul M. Apple, secretary of the Illinois State Historical Society.

per and also despite the fact that her husband was subject to moods of distraction and melancholia. Mrs. Lincoln's flareups foreshadowed the complete mental collapse that was to make her later years so tragic. Lincoln's moody spells were not infrequently conquered by his reading of sentimental verse. He was extremely fond of poetry, especially that of a mournful nature.

In the main, however, Lincoln was good-natured and full of fun. He was entirely devoted to his sons, and truly in love with his wife. He liked to romp with the boys, take them for long walks in the country, or haul them about the streets of the town in their little wagon. He never reprimanded the boys, permitted them to do just as they wished, and was deaf and blind to their faults. Folk in Springfield used to say that the Lincoln boys were "spoil" from too much petting.

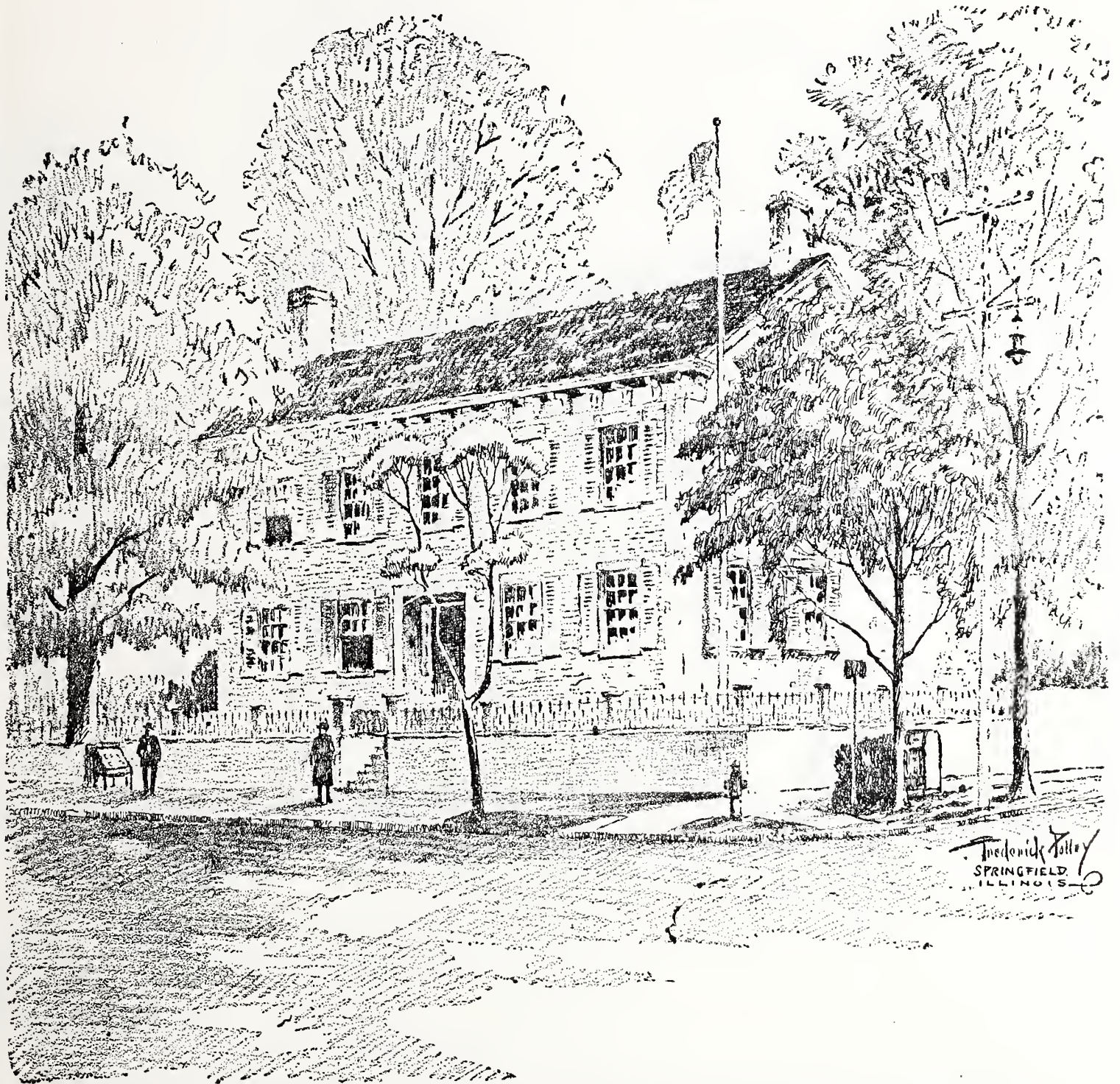
So considerate was Lincoln of his wife that whenever a thunderstorm came up while he was in Springfield he would rush home to comfort her. She was fearful of thunder and lightning. The Lincolns while in Springfield generally employed a woman servant, a maid of all work, who, as was common in those

this article, and he often would eat between meals during the course of the day. Mrs. Lincoln, so the biographers say, skimmed on the table in order to have money to spend on clothing for herself and her boys. It was not the pettiness of the Lincolns to invite friends to dinner, although Mrs. Lincoln often gave parties and frequently entertained women friends in her home in the afternoons. At these afternoon gatherings she would call in her sons, nicely dressed for the occasion, and induce them to recite verses for the entertainment of the guests.

On certain occasions, when life was not running too smoothly at home or when he was in the midst of one of his spells of distraction, Lincoln would take his breakfast to his office. Cheese, crackers, and bologna sausage were his favorite foods for these office breakfasts.

In his later years in Springfield, Lincoln was away from home about six months of every year, traveling from one county seat to another to try law cases. Though he constantly was making new acquaintances, meeting all types of persons and creating a legion of friends, he never fell into the habits of the ordinary politicians of his times. That is, he never drank intoxicating liquors and he never smoked. He was a good fellow

OUR AMERICA.....A Series by Frederick Polley



(Esquire Features, Inc.)

Three of Abraham Lincoln's four sons—Edward, William and Thomas—were born in this home in Springfield, Ill. Lincoln purchased the residence May 2, 1844. Twelve years later he remodeled the home as it now stands. The brick foundation fence was built in 1850.

The home, which now is maintained as a memorial, was the scene of Lincoln's official notification as the Republican nominee for President in 1860. And here, February 6, 1861, was held the last social event of the Civil war President's private life.

LINCOLN HOME IN SPRINGFIELD.

Text and Drawing by Frederick Polley



Throughout America there are statues, originals or replicas, of Abraham Lincoln. Reproductions of his likeness in varied graphic form and reprints of his famous speeches may be found in every civilized country in the world, but only in Springfield, Ill., can be seen the home that Lincoln owned, where his three sons, Edward, William and Thomas, were born. Robert Todd was born at 315 East Adams street.

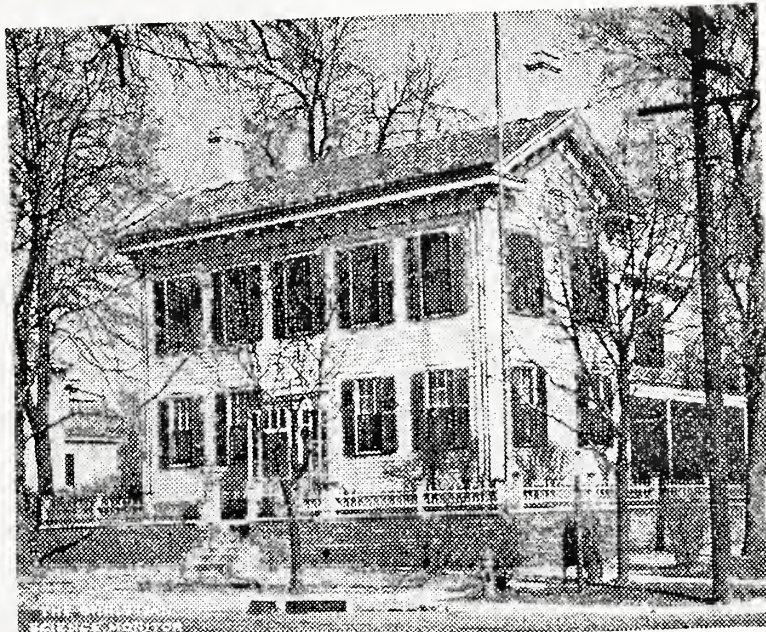
Lincoln purchased this residence on May 2, 1844. Twelve years later he remodeled the home as it now stands; the brick foundation fence was built in 1850.

The house was not built by Lincoln, but it was well constructed of long-lasting materials, the floors of oak, the exterior of black walnut and the doors and frames of the same native timber.

This Springfield residence was the scene of his official notification of the Republican party as its candidate for the presidency and here on Feb. 6, 1861, was held the last social event of his private life. The building is now maintained as a memorial of Lincoln's residence in Springfield.

Abraham Lincoln was born Feb. 12, 1809, in Hardin county, Kentucky, of hardy pioneer parents who had migrated from Virginia.

Here Lincoln Dwelt



Illinois State Register

The President's Home in Illinois

The residence at the Capital, Springfield, is under control of the State as a museum. It is estimated that as many as 500,000 persons a year visit this memento of the Emancipator. It was in Springfield that Lincoln was engaged in the practice of law.



Lincoln's Home in Springfield a Place to See

BY MARTHA WENDT

Visiting Abraham Lincoln's old home in Springfield should be a must on every one's list of places to see. All railroads to St. Louis from Chicago go thru Springfield, and highway 66 also winds its way to the state capital. On the smooth highway it is difficult to imagine Lincoln riding his horse along the muddy road, as this is a route often taken by him.

Springfield is a mixture of the old and the new. The old tells its history and the new lets the world know that it is a sprightly, stepping city, keeping up with the times.

• • •

The home of Lincoln is easily found. All of its prized furnishings are carefully guarded. This is in contrast to the home of Longfellow in Cambridge, Mass., where visitors are allowed to walk on the carpets and handle books and pictures.

On the wall of the first Lincoln room we come to is a photograph of the Rev. Charles Dresser who built the house in 1839, performed the marriage ceremony for Abraham Lincoln and Mary Todd in 1842, and sold the house to Lincoln in the spring of 1844—the only house Lincoln ever owned. All of the Lincoln children except Robert were born in this home.

• • •

A clock on a wall contains a calendar which shows Saturday, April 15, as the day Lincoln died in 1865. The upper part of the clock shows the time of death that day—7:22 a.m. The Franklin stove of iron in another room has wide doors opening like a bookcase and a wide shelf at the bottom to hold wood. The top is ornamented with iron knobs. A more ornate stove in the front parlor is made in the shape of a cottage

with ruffled eaves of iron.

On the wall of another room is the shaving mirror Lincoln used until a little girl told him in a letter he would get more votes if he had a beard.

This is the homewhere members of the Republican national convention notified Lincoln of his nomination for president on May 19, 1860.

It is not many blocks from the home to the state capitol. In between is the governor's mansion on a rise in the center of a city

block. A wide driveway leads to it.

Postcards may be bought in Springfield which show the four log cabin homes in which Lincoln lived, the home in Springfield, and the White House in Washington. There also are cards showing his final resting place, the Lincoln monument in Oak Ridge cemetery at Springfield.

EARL BUYS NASSAU TRACK

The earl of Camarvon, English sportsman, has acquired control of Hobby Horse hall, famous oval race track at Nassau, in the Bahamas.

LINCOLN LORE

Bulletin of the Lincoln National Life Foundation - - - - - Dr. Louis A. Warren, Editor
Published each week by The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Number 773

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

January 31, 1944

PHOTOGRAPHS OF LINCOLN'S HOME

There is not a residence in what once comprised the old Northwest Territory, which has been more often photographed than the home of Abraham Lincoln, at Springfield, Illinois. It was just 100 years ago on January 16, 1844, that the first legal papers were signed, which looked forward to the early occupancy of the home by Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln.

The minister who was engaged to marry Abraham Lincoln and Mary Todd, the Rev. Charles Dresser, rector of the Episcopal Church, lived in a cottage he had built in 1840, on the northeast corner of Eighth and Jackson Streets. It was the intention of Abraham and Mary to have been married in this parsonage, and if Mrs. Edwards, Mary's sister, had not insisted that the wedding take place in her home, the young people would have been married in the house which within a few months was to become their own.

On February 5, 1844, Lincoln made a payment of \$750.00 on the contract price of \$1200.00, and in which there was also involved a piece of real estate on the public square, valued at \$300.00. The deal was consummated by the signing of a deed of conveyance on the following May 2nd, when the Lincolns took possession. So the first and only home the Lincolns ever owned was originally a manse.

The Cottage

The dwelling at the time it was purchased by Lincoln was a story and a half cottage, and few improvements were made until 1850, when a fence with a brick foundation was constructed. When the family had reached a total of five, the Lincolns were in need of more room, and another story was added to the cottage in 1856, at a cost of \$1300.00. This would bring the cost of the property, including the improvement, to about \$3000.00, and this is the amount for which Lincoln had the place insured.

It is not likely that the story and a half cottage was ever photographed, previous to the remodeling, although some drawings have been made of it which probably are fairly accurate. Just when the first picture of the home was made, it is difficult to say. There is a rather ingenious method of determining the probable dates when the pictures of the Lincoln home were taken. Sometime previous to 1860, an elm tree was set out by Mr. Lincoln in front of his home, and it serves as a measuring rod for the chronological identification of the many pictures taken of the building up to 1906.

The Candidate's Residence

J. C. Whipple, of Boston, went to Springfield after Lincoln's nomination to the presidency, on May 18, 1860, and took at least two photographs of the Lincoln home. These pictures of the building show Mr. Lincoln in the front yard with two of his sons, "Willie" and "Tad." There is also to be observed in one of the two different prints the picture of a small boy in front of the house. He is identified as Isaac Diller, who recently passed away, at Springfield, at the age of eighty-nine years.

Previous to the taking of these photographs, Robothan, the artist, visited Springfield on his trip through the Lincoln country of Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois, probably in May, 1860, and made a drawing of the Lincoln home. It is his work which is reproduced in what may be the first picture of the Lincoln home to appear in a book—Barrett's *Life of Lincoln*, published in 1865. Brockett's *Life of Lincoln*, published the same year, also shows a picture of the home, but it is an idealized view made from one of the Whipple photographs. The first really fine engraving of the home appears in Holland's *Life of Lincoln*.

One of the most interesting and widely circulated photographs of the building was taken on August 8, 1860. A large political rally was being held in Springfield, and a parade, which was passing the Lincoln home, stopped long enough to be photographed in front of the dwelling.

The President's Homestead

It is difficult to discover original photographs taken of the residence while the Lincolns were making their home at Washington, from 1861 to 1865. An engraving made by J. Manz, of Chicago, and another appearing in *Harper's Weekly* for May 20, 1865, were probably made from photographs taken during this period.

The Martyr's House

Upon the assassination of Abraham Lincoln the building was immediately draped in black. The Lincoln National Life Foundation has several original photographs taken of the house while wearing its mourning garments. Several of them bear the imprint of "F. W. Ingmire, City Galleries, West side of Public Square, Springfield, Ill." The earliest photograph of the building draped in mourning shows the decorator's ladder against a fence, and all the trimmings are in perfect order, as if the work had just been finished.

There were several group pictures made at the time of the funeral, with the house serving as a background. The most common one shows a very large delegation which almost fills the yard and the sidewalk. A group of one hundred Chicago citizens is another well-known picture. In a still smaller group there appears the delegates from Washington, containing twenty-one men, U. S. Senators and Congressmen. In another picture Lincoln's old horse, covered with a mourning blanket, is photographed with attendants, and in front of the house a dozen or more citizens stand on the sidewalk. A group consisting of eleven men, women and children with one of the boys up in the top of the elm tree was also taken in front of the President's former home.

These group pictures taken on May 2nd, the day of the funeral and also the day following, show the elm tree just starting to put out its leaves, but a later picture, by Ingmire, reveals the tree in full foliage with the decorations still up, but badly disarranged.

The Rental Property

The last tenant to occupy the home under the ownership of Robert Lincoln was O. H. Oldroyd, who is said to have encouraged Robert Lincoln to give the property to the state. Possibly the first pictures of the home to have a wide distribution were single views and stereoscope pictures taken on August 8, 1885, and sold by Oldroyd at twenty-five cents each. Over the front door of the house there appeared a sign with this inscription, "Lincoln Residence."

A State Shrine

After the home became a state shrine in 1887, much more interest was taken in the building and *The First Biennial Report of the Lincoln Household Trustees*, published in 1889, carries an engraving of the home by Blomgreen Bros. The back fence was taken down and a cannon and flagpole placed in the backyard. Several hundred dollars were spent on repairs at this time, and Bullard and Bullard, architects, were paid \$50.00 for "taking measurements and preparing full drawings of the home."

On August 17, 1906, the historic elm tree which stood in front of the home and made it possible through its growth to give proper chronological sequence to the pictures of the house, was destroyed by a storm.

It is not generally known that the famous home itself was in danger of being destroyed two years later during a race riot in Springfield. A Springfield news dispatch of August 18, 1908 stated: "It developed to-day that an attempt was made late Saturday night to burn the house of Abraham Lincoln. A torch had been lighted and applied to the building but it was discovered in time by a woman living in the neighborhood and the fire was extinguished with little damage."



The Lincoln home in Springfield, which was given to the state by the President's son, Robert Lincoln.

Cherry Sunday Times May 5, 1946

Home Lincoln Loved—One in Springfield

By Al Bernardi

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Altho thousands of visitors have walked thru the rooms of Abraham Lincoln's home in Springfield, it is doubtful whether many of them realize the importance attached to this house by Lincoln.

The house was his castle. In the summer you would find him unstretching his lanky frame on the little side porch where he spent the evening reading his paper. When winter came, Lincoln spent most of his evenings in the kitchen of the house curled out on the floor, either reading or playing with his children.

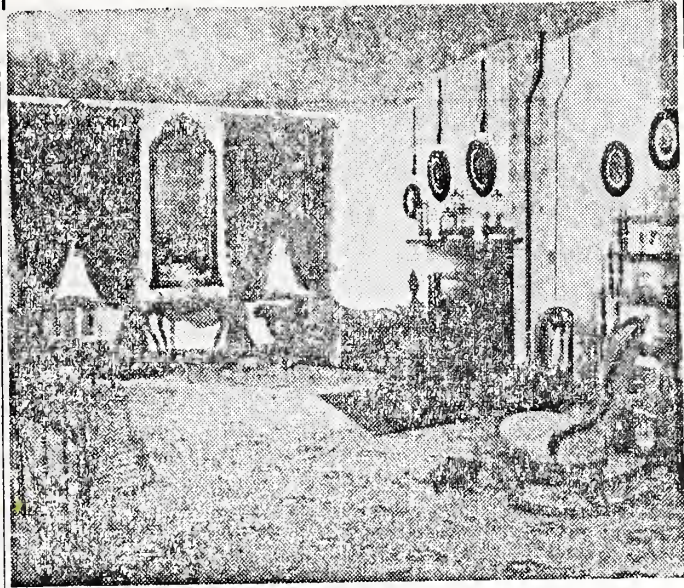
To Lincoln, his home represented the long journey from the poverty of his Kentucky birthplace to a degree of prosperity. Altho he was sometimes hard pressed for money, he never mortgaged the home. His last wish was that "we might soon settle down once more in our old Springfield home."

The house at 8th and Jackson sts. was a fireside where Lincoln rested and enjoyed his family. He kept this side of his life distinctly separate from his business. There is no record of his ever inviting any of the distinguished men who came to Springfield to visit him on business to his home. Lincoln saw them at their hotel or at his headquarters.

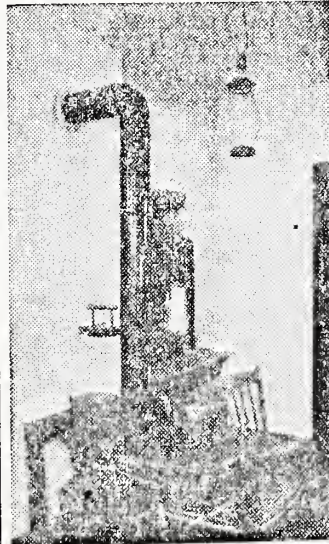
The only noteworthy event which had its setting in the Lincoln home was the official notification of his nomination to the Presidency. Led by the world heavyweight champion, Tom Hyer, the committee assembled in the south parlor of Lincoln's home. The ceremony was brief, lasting about a half hour. Lincoln's reply wasn't a set or lengthy speech, but a formal letter of acceptance was sent to the chairman of the committee five days later.

For 16 years, this was the home Lincoln loved. Here he

Where Abe Lincoln Entertained



Front parlor of the Lincoln home in Springfield. In the far corner is a seven foot sofa which Lincoln had made especially.



Part of the kitchen in Abraham Lincoln's home at 8th and Jackson sts., Springfield. It was first opened to visitors in 1955.

assumed the householder's duties common to the neighborhood. It was here that three of his sons were born and one died.

Tad Lincoln was a boy who loved to run away. On these occasions, Lincoln would lay aside his paper and overtake his small son with a long legged stride. Then, holding him in his hands at arm's length, he would carry Tad back to the house, laughing, while the youngster tried to

kick his way out of his father's grip.

Another occurrence which might have startled a stranger in the neighborhood was Mrs. Lincoln's shout of "Fire! Fire! Fire!" each mornings. Residents of the area were never alarmed for they understood that this meant there was a need for wood in the kitchen. Lincoln's acknowledgment always was a mild, "Yes, Mary; yes, Mary."

It isn't surprising that the Lincolns left this pleasant environment with sadness and longed to return. The morning of the day Lincoln was assassinated, the story goes that he and Mrs. Lincoln rode thru the streets of Washington. Lincoln was meditative. The long war was over with victory for the Union. Human slavery was no longer on this continent.

Lincoln spoke of this and then referred to the Presidential term just beginning and of its end. There are reported to have been his words:

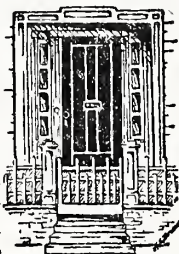
"Mary, the war is over and as soon as the present term has expired, we'll take a little trip abroad to see how they do things over there, and on our return we'll settle down once more in our old Springfield home to end our lives among the friends of our early days. I wish we might do it soon."

Through Lincoln's Door

100 Years Ago And Today

By VIRGINIA S. BROWN.

One hundred years ago in November and December the record shows - Abraham Lincoln spent most of his time practicing law. In November he was riding the circuit and away from home, but managed to be in Springfield on the fifth to vote in the congressional election.



During the month of December Lincoln was at home, in and out of his door on the corner of Eighth and Jackson Sts., or we can see him from Herndon's word picture, "On a winter's morning, wending his way to market, with a basket on his arm," wearing his "... old gray shawl, rolled into a coil, and wrapped like a rope around his neck."

Dec. 21 was a Saturday, and on

that day the Lincolns' third son, William Wallace, was born, named after his uncle, Dr. William Wallace. We have no record of their Christmas day, but it must have been a happy one with a new baby in the family, especially with the memory of little 4-year-old Eddie Baker, the second son who had died of diphtheria in February of the same year.

Today—November is a red letter month in Lincoln's home, because Lincoln's hat rack has come home to stay and is on display in the front hall. There was a sale of household things in the house on Eighth and Jackson Sts. shortly before the Lincolns went to Washington. A few days before that sale Lincoln told his friend, Newton Bateman, state superintendent of schools, whose office was near Lincoln's, that if there was anything he wanted, to choose it before the sale. Mr. Bateman decided on the hat rack in the hall.

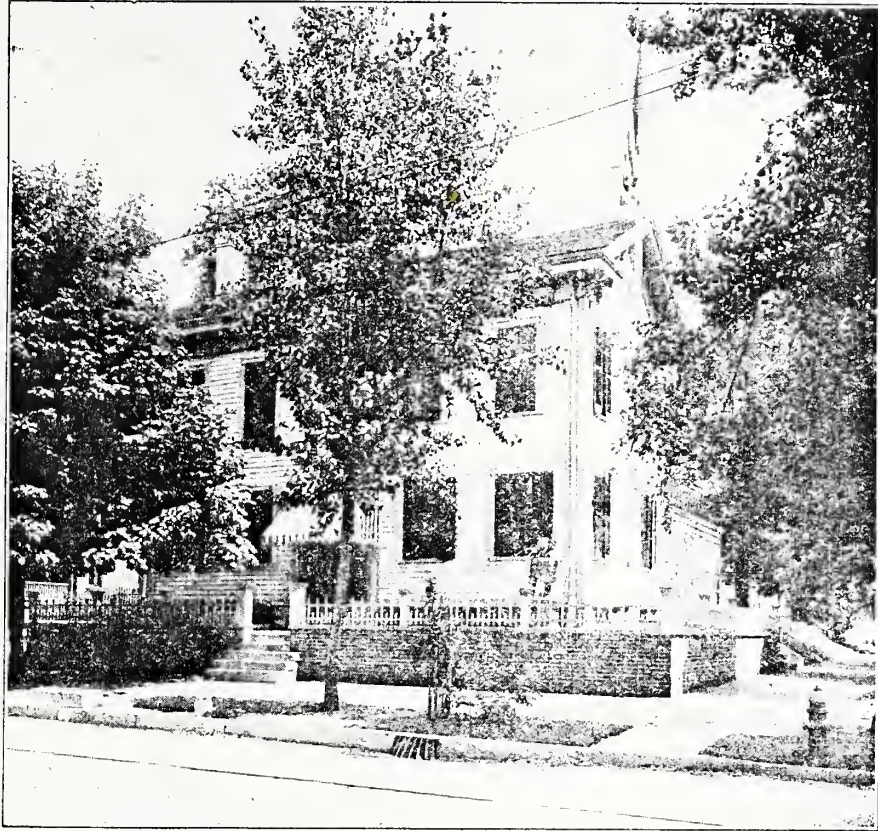
Later while he was president of Knox college in Galesburg the hat rack was proudly kept in his home until his death. His daughter fell heir to it and now, 90 years since Mr. Bateman chose it, his granddaughter, Mrs. Bert Wheeler, in Denver, Colo., sends it home intact as the Lincolns used it—the same little mirror in which Lincoln undoubtedly squinted when he took off his hat—the same tin tray where he stood his umbrella, and the hooks on which he hung his "old gray shawl" where it probably hung loosely coiled until he wrapped it around his neck again.

We are grateful to Newton Bateman and his heirs for such good care of Lincoln's hat rack these many years, and to Mrs. Wheeler for returning it to its original setting.

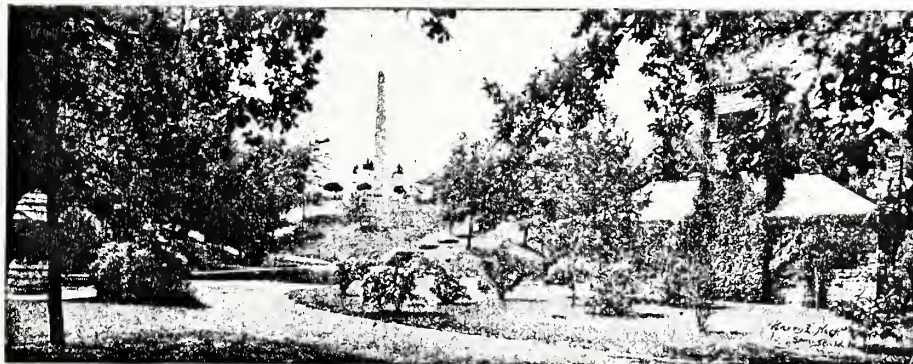
James O. Monroe, of Chicago, visited Lincoln's home again and presented a copy of his ode, "The Hallowed Home."

During the month of November, 1950, 7198 visitors representing every state in the union and including 52 from 18 foreign countries and 23 busloads of school children, came through Lincoln's door.

Lincoln's home is open daily and Sunday from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. and is closed on Thanksgiving day, Christmas day and New Year's day.



LINCOLN HOME



VIEW IN BEAUTIFUL OAK RIDGE CEMETERY
SHOWING LINCOLN'S MONUMENT

Everything but Ax—Illinois Capital Remembers Lincoln

Ex-President Bought House for \$1,500

By Esther Miller Payler

Special to The Christian Science Monitor
Springfield, Ill.

This state capital, in the center of Illinois, on Highway 36, can show you the only house which Lincoln ever owned, and his tomb, marked by an appropriate monument. Today you can ride comfortably in your car to the Abraham Lincoln home or tomb. Both are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. There is plenty of space to park.

Not only is the site beautiful with well-kept lawns, trees and wide horizon, but the lofty monument and tomb, with its sturdy stone and bronze, is an inspiring symbol when silhouetted against the sky.

Opposite the tomb entrance, at ground level, is a rugged Lincoln head in bronze. In the entrance room, there is a bronze model of the Daniel Chester French statue, one-sixth the size of that

in the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. In the marble hallways are eight statuettes, each four feet high, of the various phases in Lincoln's life.

Career Cast in Bronze

Four bronze slabs give a sketch of Lincoln's career, the farewell address, Gettysburg speech, and a portion of the second inaugural speech. Flags of the states in which the generations of the Lincoln family lived are displayed: Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois. An American flag and the presidential flag, are in the center.

A brief ride brings you to the Lincoln home at the corner of Eighth and Jackson Streets. You can see its white paint through the trees before you reach it. Lincoln was a young lawyer when he bought this house for \$1,500. He contracted for the brick wall which holds the fence. To this house in May, 1844, Lincoln brought his wife, Mary Todd Lincoln, and his infant son. His other three boys were born in his home.

During one of Lincoln's terms in Congress, the family did not live in this house, but with that exception they lived here until 1861 when he went to Washington as President-elect.

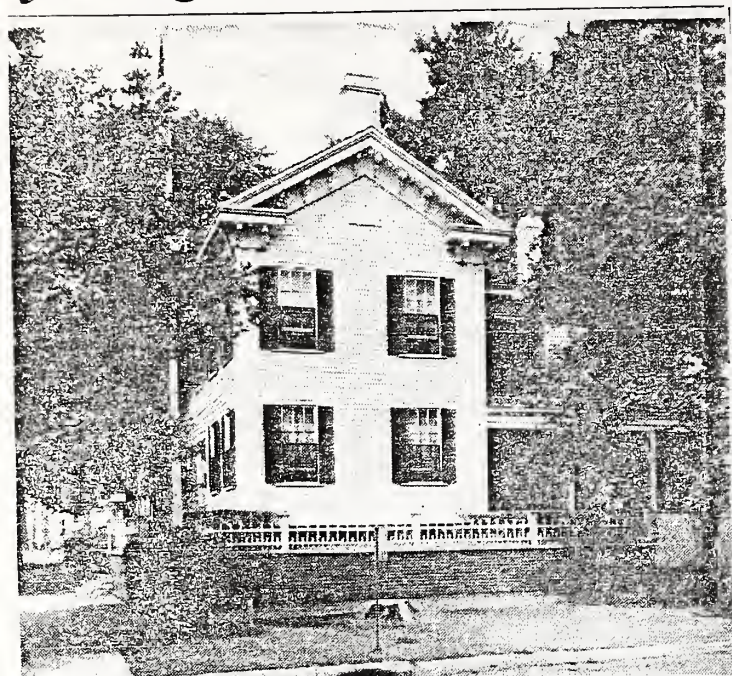
House Made Memorial

In the parlor of this house, the committee from the Republican National Convention gathered to notify Lincoln officially of his nomination as candidate for the presidency. Lincoln still owned this house at his passing, al-

though it was rented and its furnishings sold to Lucian Tilton. Lincoln's son, Robert, deeded this house for a memorial open to the public. There is no charge for going through the house.

The furnishings are contemporary to Lincoln's time. The restoration is copied from a newspaperman's sketch of the house in 1861. The dining-room table and the doorbell are original. The wallpaper is copied. The floors and stairway are the same as they were in Lincoln's occupancy of the house.

It is not difficult to imagine Lincoln romping with his boys in the rooms, talking to them or to guests, and chuckling over doll stories. Perhaps his big, muddy boots tracked the floor you are walking on, and he was scolded for his absent-mindedness. Maybe he paced the floor, and these very boards creaked as he walked heavily, thinking of the responsibility which awaited him as President.

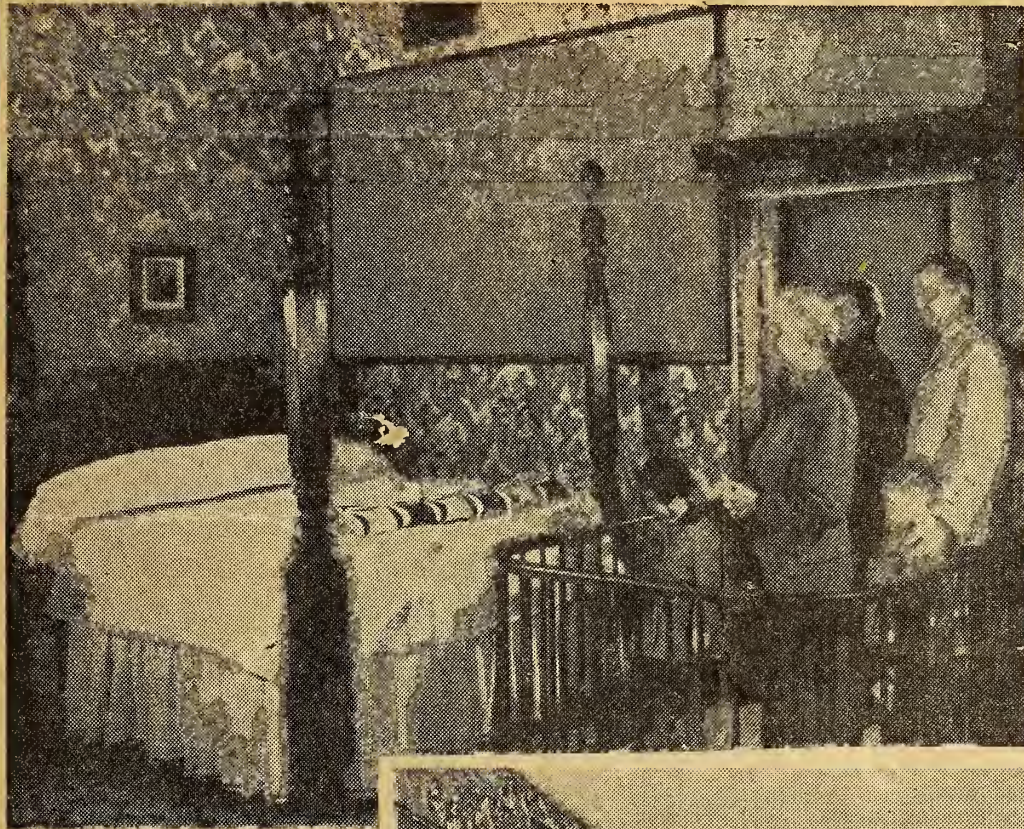


Home of Abraham Lincoln in Springfield, Ill., Is National Shrine

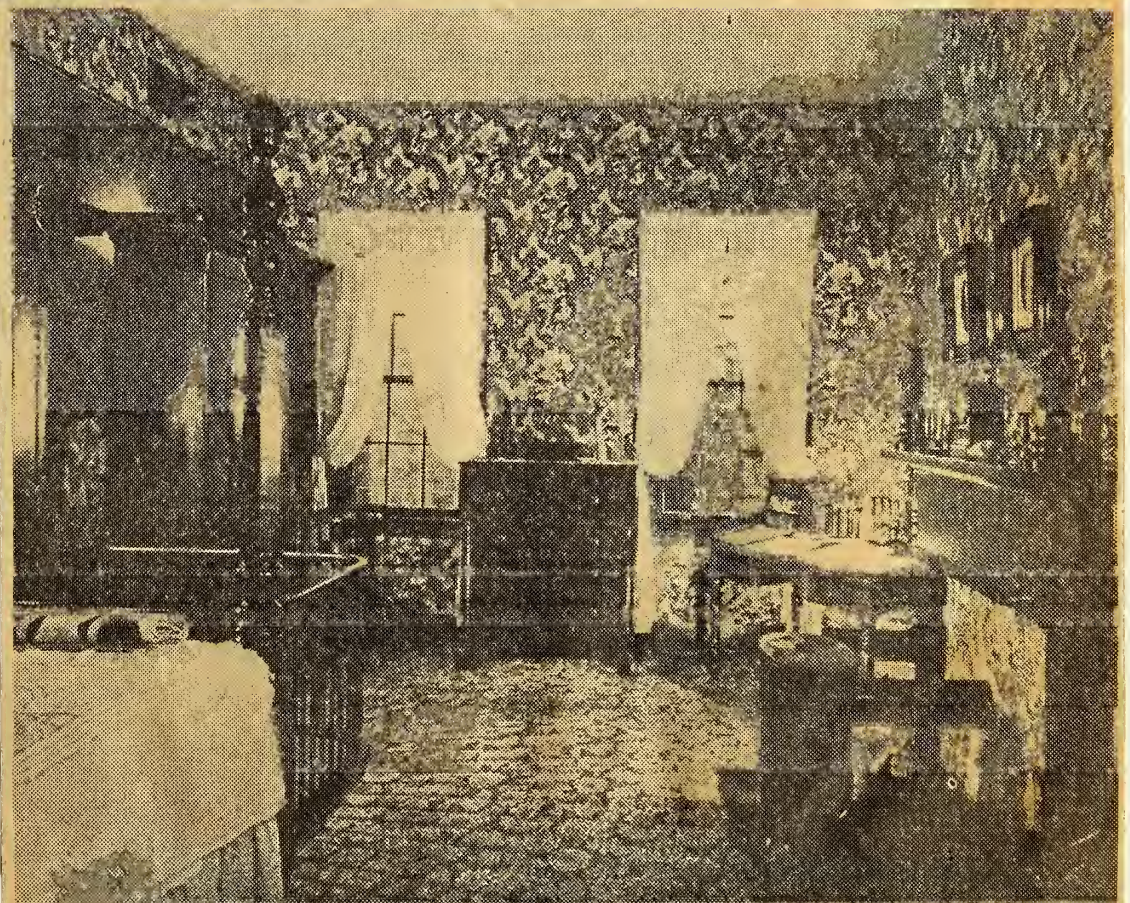
Springfield, Illinois Home

2-11-55

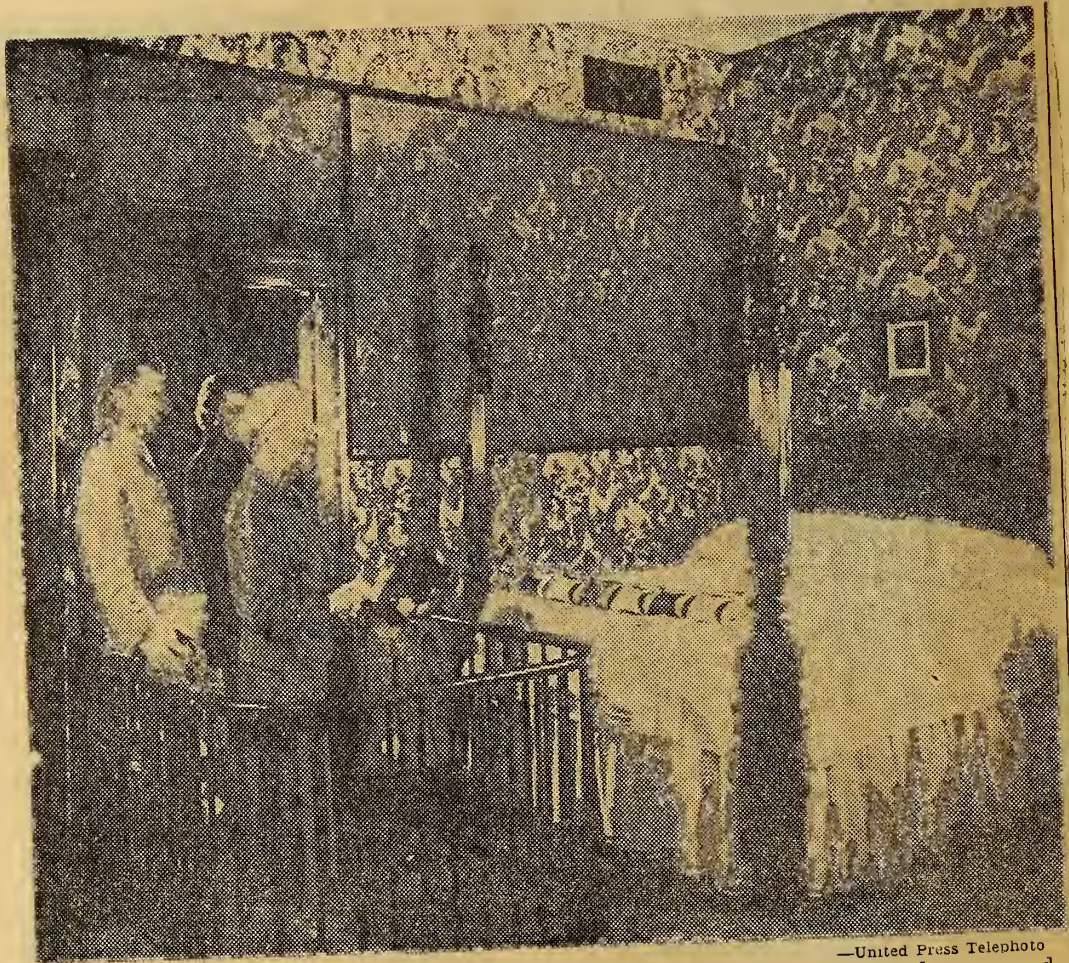
NEW YORK WORLD-TELEGRAM AND SUN, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY



Mrs. Kathleen Bradish, field, Ill., gives friends preview public tomorrow for first time. paper for restoration of rest of



LINCOLN'S ROOM RESTORED—The public will get a chance to see the five-year, \$60,000 restoration of the upstairs of Lincoln's home in Springfield, Ill., Feb. 12. Originals in his room are the chest, straight chair, left background; others are period pieces. Glass-paneled wall, left back of cabinet, is original wall paper from which remainder was copied. Lincoln occupied this home from 1844 until he went to Washington in 1861 as President, except for time he was in House of Representatives. (Associated Press Photo)

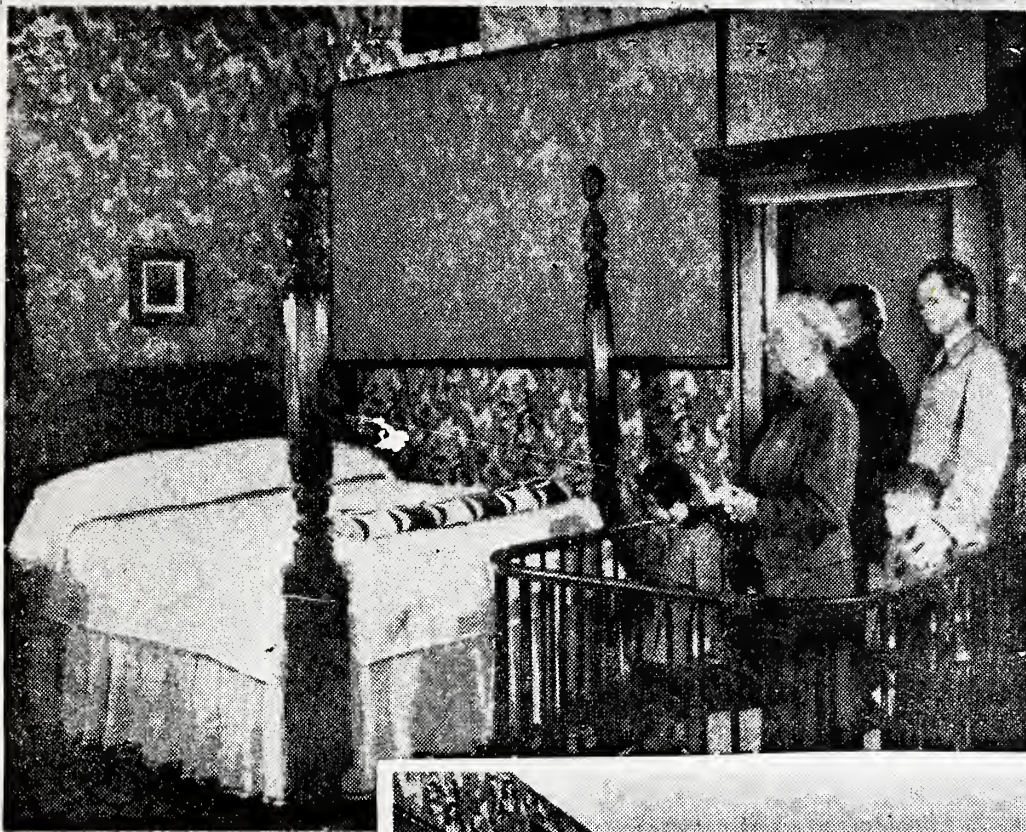


Mrs. Kathleen Brandish, custodian of the Abraham Lincoln home in Springfield, Ill., front, gives friends a preview of five rooms on the second

floor. The home will be opened to the public for the first time on Lincoln's birthday anniversary today. This room is the Lincoln bedroom.

—United Press Telephoto

2-11-55
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Lincoln's Room
Restored - 2



Mrs. Kathleen Bradish, custodian of the Abraham Lincoln home in Springfield, Ill., gives friends preview of the president's bedroom, which will be opened to public tomorrow for first time. Glassed-over area is original wallpaper, from which paper for restoration of rest of room was copied.

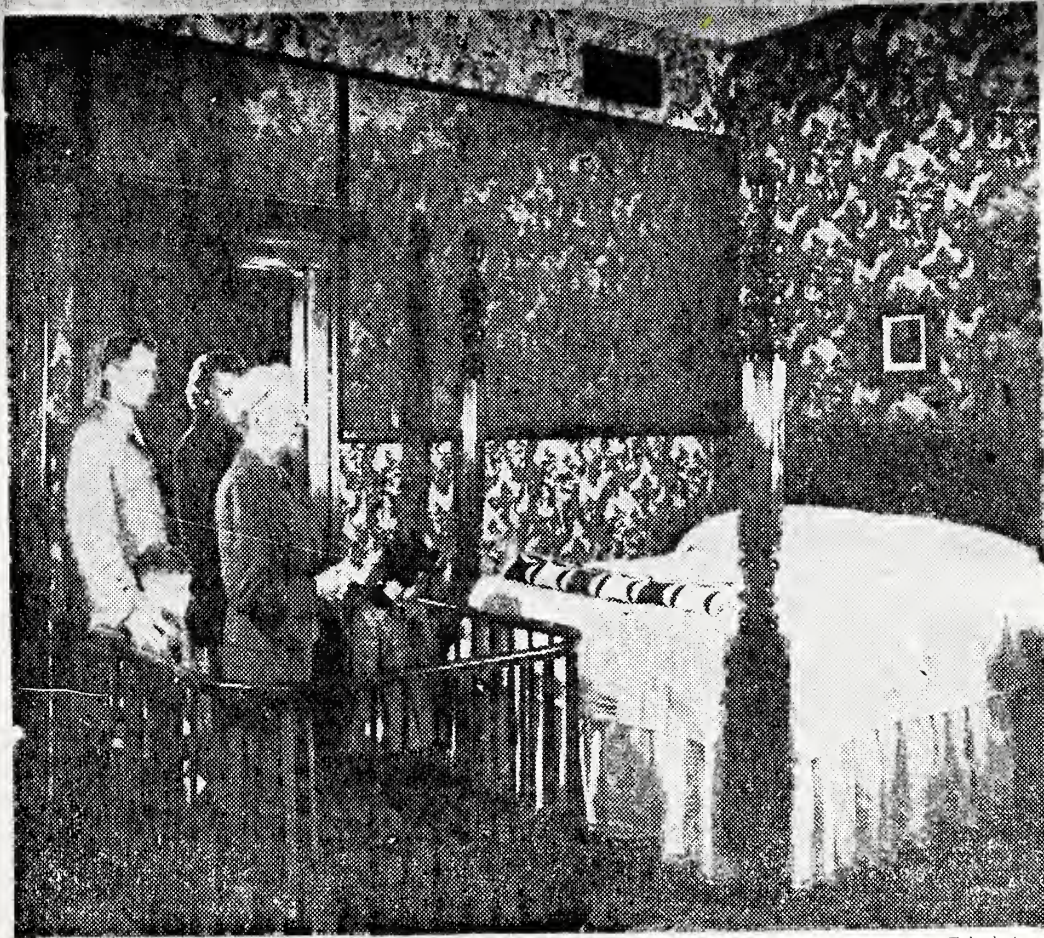
United Press Telephoto.

\$39.98

Partizan Chapter Schedules Party.

FOLLOWING dinner, new organization
her dance pupils will present a
program.
Mrs. Kenneth Kern, Delta Gamma,
and Mrs. Dalton McAlister,
Pi Chapter, are co-chairmen of the
event. Their assistants include:
Mrs. William McMahon, Mrs. Ben
Giequinta, Mrs. Richard Thomp-
son, Miss Marie Miller and Miss
Nancy McKay of Pi Chapter and
Mrs. R. E. Koehler and Mrs. John
L. Richardson of Delta Gamma.

Partizan Chapter, Elex Club,
will entertain with a George Wash-
ington party Tuesday at 1 p.m.
at the Gas Kitchen Institute.
The party are: Mrs.
chairman, Mrs. Paul
John Gilbert and Miss



—United Press Telephoto

Mrs. Kathleen Brandish, custodian of the Abraham Lincoln home in Springfield, Ill., front, gives friends a preview of five rooms on the second

floor. The home will be opened to the public for the first time on Lincoln's birthday anniversary today. This room is the Lincoln bedroom.



13. MR. LINCOLN, RESIDENCE AND HORSE. 1865. In Springfield, Illinois, as they appeared on his return at the close of the campaign with Senator Douglas. Lithograph $15\frac{1}{2}$ x $20\frac{1}{2}$ plus good margins, hand colored. Fine condition. \$85.00.

FRAMING FOR CHRISTMAS

MAY WE URGE OUR CUSTOMERS WHO PLAN TO USE
FRAMED PRINTS AS CHRISTMAS GIFTS TO LET US HAVE
THEIR ORDERS AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE. YOU WILL THUS
BE SURE OF OUR VERY BEST SERVICE AND OUR REAL
APPRECIATION OF YOUR KIND COOPERATION.



More than a half million people annually visit the Springfield, Ill., house where Lincoln lived from 1844 to 1861. The rocking horse and little wagon (foreground) belonged to his son, Tad, who died tragically at eighteen in 1871. (Tad's older brother, Willie, died at eleven in 1862 at the White House, during his father's life-time.)

Made a Museum 75 Years Ago

By Florence C. Weed

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—Visitors to the home of Abraham Lincoln are struck with the distance the man traveled from his birthplace in a primitive log cabin in the Kentucky woods to the comfortable frame town house he acquired here for his wife and



Mrs. Weed

four sons.

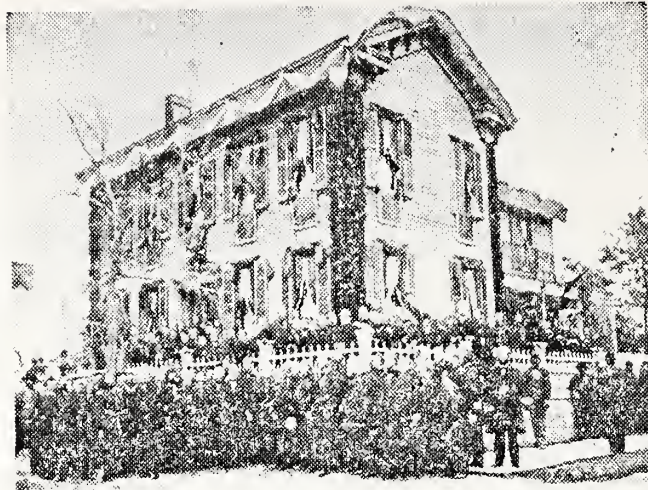
Built of native oak, hickory, and black walnut, this sturdy house at the corner of 8th street and Jackson has been a public museum since 1887. It is open from 8:30 a. m. to 5 p. m. every day except Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's.

In 75 years, it is estimated that more than a half million persons have walked thru the rooms, reconstructing the fascinating Lincoln story, and marveling how comfortably a middle class city family lived a century ago.

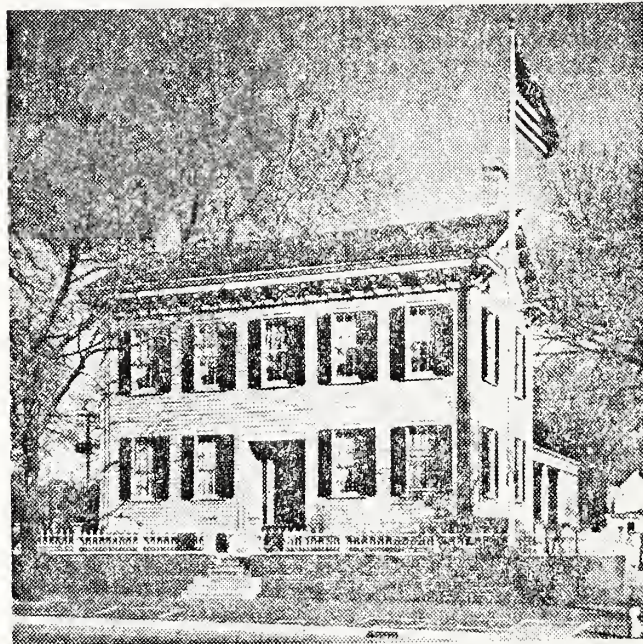
Most of the Lincoln's furniture was sold when the family rented this house and moved to Washington, D. C., in 1861. But some of the original furnishings later were returned to become a nucleus for the restoration made by the Abraham Lincoln Association of Springfield and the National Society of Colonial Dames in Illinois.

Colors in this home are somber and the furniture is dark and heavy. Here are horsehair covered chairs, high wardrobes in place of closets, figured carpeting, and heavy brocade draperies topped by metal valances. Mary Lincoln's what-not holds pink lined shells, small statuettes, and vases, showing this woman's love for beauty.

Lincoln's portable writing desk is a fine old piece, coveted by collectors. In the kitchen cupboard are dishes of the brown tea leaf pattern. A hostess points out a corner patch of the original wall paper which was discovered under many layers. Stoves set up in front of the fireplaces are a transition from earlier days. On display are flat irons, not only used for ironing clothes



Lincoln's home in Springfield in May, 1865, when it was draped in mourning for the assassinated President.



Lincoln's home as it is today.

but also for keeping beds warm in winter.

The only discordant note is the old-fashioned recording wall clock hung in the dining room. Reaching across a century of time, it is set at 7:22, Saturday, April 15—the fateful hour in 1865 when an assassin's bullet cut down Illinois' most illustrious son.

In the 17 years that the Lincolns lived in their Springfield home, the old house saw a "heap of livin'" as the Lincolns moved from financially struggling home owners to the first family of the nation.

The jump from log cabin to townhouse was not accomplished easily. As a bridegroom, age 33, Lincoln struggled to build a profitable law practice. Since he had no money to buy a home, he took

his bride, age 23, to live at the Globe tavern where board and room cost \$4 a week.

A year later when their first son, Robert, was born, it became increasingly difficult to live in a boarding house with a small baby. The Lincolns wanted a house of their own, but, like many present day young couples, had no money for a down payment.

They finally found a suitable 1½ story cottage and made a deal to buy it for \$1,500 from the Rev. Charles Dressey, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal church. He agreed to take a lot at \$300 which Lincoln owned and \$1,200 in cash. Lincoln paid \$750 down but it was another year before he could finish payment and take possession of the cottage.

The family moved to their

new home May 2, 1844. At that time the house had a \$900 mortgage on it which the minister later cleared. Lincoln is said to have stated that he "reckoned he could trust the preacher who married him."

Three more boys were born to the Lincolns while they lived in this house—Eddie, 1846 [who died there in 1850]; Willie, 1850 [who died in the White House in 1862]; and Tad, 1853. Four boisterous boys in a small cottage brought problems, and, as in modern families, an addition was needed as soon as they could afford it.

The first improvement was the brick wall and iron fence which still stands across the 50 foot lot. In 1855 this was extended one quarter of the distance along the side of the lot and a high board fence finished the border so as to conceal the carriage house at the rear.

By 1856 the Lincolns were able to enlarge their home by raising the roof to a full two stories at a cost of \$1,500. They now had an imposing home with nine shuttered windows across the front and adequate room for entertaining.

This enlargement came none too soon, as Lincoln had become a successful politician. On May 19, 1860, a Republican committee came to the north parlor to notify Lincoln that he had been nominated for President. During the next few months, the house was thronged with well wishers and office seekers.

On the last day the Lincolns lived there, they opened their home to the public for a grand levee held from 7 p. m. to midnight. The Missouri Democrat of St. Louis reported that "the house was thronged by thousands, a grand outpouring of citizens and strangers."

Lincoln received the people in the hallway and then passed them on to be introduced to Mrs. Lincoln who stood in the parlour, dressed in white moire silk gown with a full train. The same newspaper commented, "She was a lady of fine figure and accomplished address and is well calculated to grace and do honor at the White House."

Altho Lincoln told his friends that he intended to return to Springfield to live and practice law after his second term as President, a crazed assassin

Here's Story Behind Lincoln Home in Springfield

cut short his life and left his wife a tragic, shattered woman.

The family home was rented to several families between the years 1861 to 1883. Then it became a museum to house the Oldroyd collection of Civil war relics and Lincoln mementos. In 1887 the last surviving Lincoln son, Robert Todd Lincoln, deeded the property to the State of Illinois.

Lincoln's House

by JESS L. BANGUIS



ABRAHAM LINCOLN

THE 153rd anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth falls on Monday, the 12th. He died when he was 56 — three years younger than the late President Roxas.

Lincoln was a politician, but in his lifetime, he owned only one house, which he acquired when he was already 35. Before this, he lived with his wife and his first son in a \$4-a-week boarding house.

The house he bought is still located at the northeast corner of Jackson and Eighth streets, in Springfield, Illinois. I visited this house, now an American shrine, when I was in the U.S.

As I entered the hallway and saw his umbrella, scarf, and top hat on the coat-rack, I almost expected Honest Abe to appear from somewhere

and greet me with, "Please, do come in."

Lincoln bought this house and lot for \$1,500 from the rector who married him and Mary Todd. The couple lived in this house for 17 years. His three sons, Edward, William, and Thomas, were born there.

In his bedroom, I studied the furniture and the room decor. I imagined what he would have done before retiring and after getting up from bed in the morning. A voracious reader, he may have sat in the rocking chair near the fireplace and read himself to sleep. In the morning, upon waking up, he may have looked at the clock atop the fireplace, before washing in the lavatory near the window.

There was no face mirror in the room, so he must have either just brushed his hair or swept it back with his hand.

Lincoln left this house on February 12, 1861, his 52nd birthday, to go to Washington to become the 16th president of the United States.

I saw the north parlor of President Lincoln's home where he received the committee appointed to notify him of his nomination to the presidency. The room looked too small for the big men who must have gathered for that momentous occasion, on May 19, 1860.

According to the records, on the eve of Honest Abe's departure from this house, it was filled with thousands of friends and strangers from 7 a.m. to midnight.

I imagined how the tall, gaunt Lincoln stood in the doorway welcoming his guests and introducing them to Mrs. Lincoln beside him.

It was a sad day, that day in February 101 years ago next Monday. It was President Lincoln's birthday and his last day in the beloved house. It was drizzling.

Speaking from the rear platform of the railroad coach which was taking him to the highest position in the land, President Lincoln uncovered his head, and with the rain falling on his face, addressed his well-wishers:

"No one, not in any situation, can appreciate my feelings of sadness at this parting. To this place, and the kindness of these people, I owe every-

(Continued on next page)
(at the back)



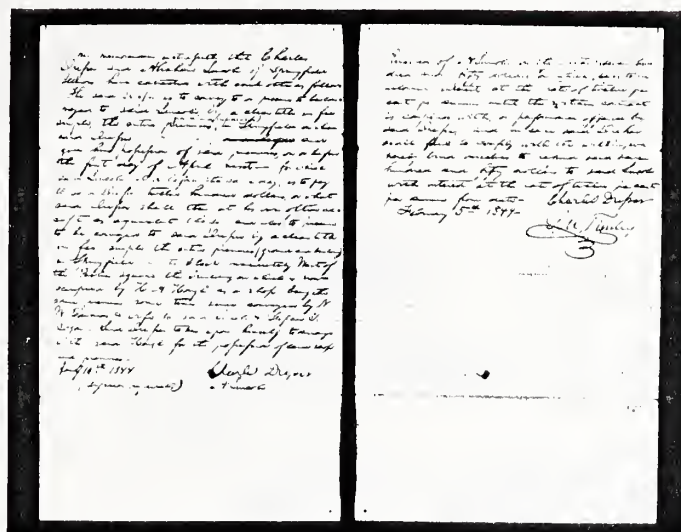
Author (in foreground) views Lincoln's residence in Springfield, Illinois.



THE LINCOLN HOMESTEAD

The Lincoln Homestead, the only residence ever owned by Abraham Lincoln, is situated at the northeast corner of Eighth and East Jackson Streets, Springfield. The property was conveyed to the State by Robert Todd Lincoln in 1887, and is open to the public each day during visiting hours.

Lincoln Savings proudly possesses one of the largest collections of Abraham Lincoln's effects in the western United States. The collection's size is largely due to the efforts of Roy P. Crocker, Chairman of the Board for Lincoln Savings, who personally secured many of the articles, and who is considered today to be a foremost authority on Lincolniana. The document shown here, like all the items in the collection, is periodically placed on display within the Lincoln Exhibit showcase in the lobby of the Lincoln Savings building.



The original deed to the only home Abraham Lincoln ever owned

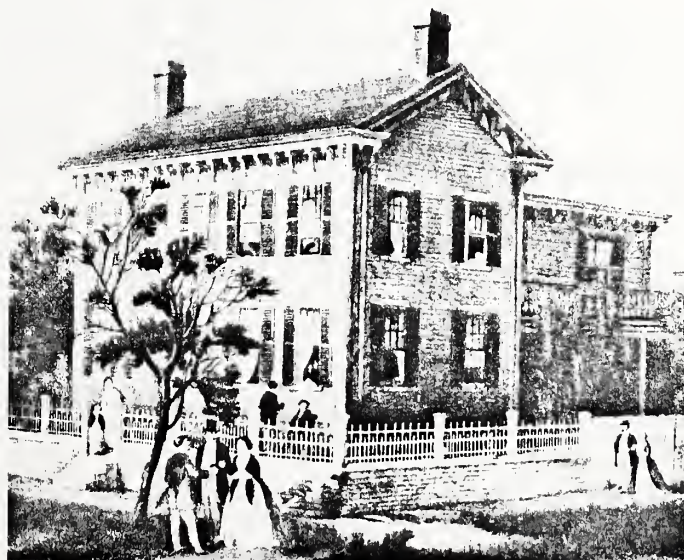
Home ownership, the dream that is within reach of every American, was equally as strong an impetus in Abraham Lincoln's day as it is today. A man who owns his own home and land can face life squarely, knowing full well that he has provided safety and security for his family. Abraham Lincoln often referred to home ownership as a basis for social and economic stability. The document shown here... the deed to a home he purchased in Springfield, Illinois... adds testament to his belief.

Lincoln purchased the home, located at the corner of Eighth and Jackson Streets, in 1844 from Reverend Charles Dresser. It was Reverend Dresser who, two years before, had performed the marriage between the prominent young lawyer and Miss Mary Todd, the belle of Springfield society. Lincoln drew up the document himself, agreeing to pay to Reverend Dresser the sum of \$1,200 plus title to a piece of property in downtown Springfield which Lincoln owned.

The reverse side of the contract states that Lincoln paid \$750 down in the form of a deposit, on which he was allowed interest of 12% a year until Reverend Dresser complied with the terms of the deed.

The house in Springfield was the only home that Lincoln ever owned. He bought it shortly after the birth of Robert, his eldest son, and it was to know the laughter and tears of three other Lincoln children born there; Edward (who died in 1850), William and Thomas.

There is unanimous histori-



cal agreement that Lincoln loved this home. The kitchen, living room and two bedrooms occupied the ground floor, with two low bedrooms comprising the second story (the house was later remodeled to include a library and additional bedroom space). Out back was a stable which housed Lincoln's horse and ramshackle buggy. The Lincolns' cow grazed in the backyard and on the grassy spots along Jackson Street. Throughout the years that Lincoln lived in the home, he derived great pleasure in doing such

chores as combing and currying his horse, milking the cow and chopping wood for the kitchen and the fireplaces.

In 1848, Lincoln leased the home and moved his family to Washington, where he served a rather unspectacular term as an Illinois Congressional Representative. He was defeated for re-election and, in late 1849, returned to Springfield to resume his successful law partnership with William Herndon. He had, by then, deemed himself a failure in politics, and had decided to devote himself to the joys of home, hearth and family.

Fate, and an appreciative electorate, decreed that Lincoln leave his Springfield once more. In 1861, Lincoln again moved to Washington... this time to the White House as the 16th President of the United States. It was the last move he would ever make.

Robert Lincoln inherited the home upon the death of his father, and later presented it to the State of Illinois. It is tragically ironic that, on the afternoon of the day of his assassination, Lincoln remarked to his wife, "We have had a hard time of it... but the war is over, and with God's blessing we may hope for four years of peace and happiness, and then we will go back to Illinois and pass the rest of our lives in quiet."

To the end, Lincoln longed to return to the comforts of his Springfield home. He was to be denied this wish... but he was to receive far greater compensation. For Abraham Lincoln's name and memory would dwell in the hearts and minds of all Americans everywhere for all time.

Not a Member, but He Gave to Baptist Church

Lincoln Almost Gave Up Law for Carpentry, Builder of His Springfield House Once Said

By WARNER OGDEN
News-Sentinel Staff Editor

Abraham Lincoln—

- Used to do his own marketing.
- Didn't lose his temper.
- Was "too honest to make a good lawyer,"
- He thought.
- Never seemed to be ruffled.
- Was never cast down by adversity, never
- defeated by success.
- And had a notion to quit studying law and
- become a carpenter.

These are among word glimpses in an eight-page pamphlet, with new research, edited by Dr. Wm. C. Temple, director of the Department of Indiana, Lincoln Memorial University. A limited edition is published for members of the National Lincoln-Civil War Council.

The booklet is called: "Builder of Lincoln's Home: Page Eaton." It tells something of his personal habits and manners, too.

Scholars have examined most angles of Lincoln's life, but none had before revealed the name of the workman who built his house. The house was originally built in 1839 for the Rev. Charles Dresser who officiated at the wedding of Lincoln and Mary Todd.

"When Lincoln called upon this minister, he evidently was impressed with the property," the booklet relates. "Later he purchased it, receiving the deed on May 3, 1844.

NEW LINCOLN FOR 30 YEARS

"Now it is possible to establish Page Eaton as the contractor. He divulged this fact in an interview for The Utica (Ill.) Herald—also carried in The Belvidere (Ill.) Standard of April 14, 1869.

"Reminiscences given long years after Lincoln's death are many times suspect, but in this instance Eaton told his story while many of the Sangamon lawyer's contemporaries were still alive to refute the assertion if it were false . . .

"Perhaps Page Eaton was not the actual contractor in 1839, but he most certainly worked on this structure as a carpenter. He would have been only 17 or 18 years of age at that time, but boys assumed men's jobs in those palmy days . . .

Eaton gave an account of Lincoln in The Belvidere Standard, April 14, 1869, the anniversary of Lincoln's assassination. Eaton had known Lincoln for 30 years, and said:



Dr. Temple



LINCOLN'S SPRINGFIELD HOUSE—Artist Xavier C. Meyer made this drawing for the Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society. It shows Lincoln's house as it looked when he bought it in 1844.

"I am a carpenter, and built his house for him. He was often in my house and I in his. I sold him the first and I think the only cow he ever owned. He came for her himself and led her home with a rope.

MRS. LINCOLN CALLED 'SCOLD'

"He was the most common, sociable man I ever knew. His wife was rather quick-tempered, used to fret and scold about a great deal, but I don't believe Mr. Lincoln was ever angry in his life. I knew him when he first came to Springfield . . .

"Young Lincoln, I remember, was an awkward, hard-working young man. Everybody said he would never make a good lawyer, because he was too honest.

"He came to my shop one day, after he had been here five or six months, and said he had a notion to quit studying law and learn the carpenter's trade. He thought there was more need of carpenters out here than lawyers. . . .

"He used always to do his own marketing, even after he was elected President, and before he went to Washington I used to see him at the baker's and butcher's every morning with his basket on his arm. Everybody respected him—no more after he was President than they did before.

"He was kind and sociable with everyone. He would speak to everyone.

"After he was elected we would sometimes ad-

dress him as 'Mr. President,' or 'glad to shake the hand of our President.'

"Well, yes, I suppose so,' he would say. 'I shall have to go and leave you before long. You must call and see me when I am living in the big house.' He was so common, so kind, so childlike, that I don't believe there was one in this city but who loved him as a father or brother.

SUPPORTED BENEVOLENT CAUSES

"He was a very liberal man, too much so, perhaps, for his own good. I am one of the trustees of the First Baptist Church, and although Mr. Lincoln was not an attendant with our congregation, he would always give \$15, \$20 or \$25 every year to help support the minister.

"He was sure to give something to every charitable and benevolent purpose that came along. 'Well, how much do you want that I should give?' he would say, drawing his purse. 'You must leave me with a little to feed the babies with.'"

Mr. Lincoln, Page related, was sitting in a telegraph office talking with all around him as usual when a dispatch came announcing his nomination to the Presidency by the Chicago convention. After the dispatch was read, Lincoln got up and said: "There is a woman over to my house who I guess would be pleased to hear that bit of news. I'll wait over and tell her."

Knoxville (Tenn.) News-Sentinel, Sun., Feb. 10, 1963.

1½-storey cottage or 1-storey cottage w. 2 attic rooms

Scale of model?

*A Visual
History of
Springfield, Illinois
on Display
at The
First National
Bank of
Springfield*

SPRINGFIELD: A PORTRAIT



On May 23, 1964, First National Bank of Springfield unveiled a 16 foot by 80 foot mural depicting the colorful history of Springfield and Sangamon County. Painted by renowned artist Harold Kee Welch and affixed to the west wall of the bank lobby, SPRINGFIELD: A PORTRAIT, records in perpetuity the community's beginnings, its present and its future.

To the pioneers who have given us a proud heritage, to the people who today make Springfield a dynamic city, to the generations who will continue these traditions in the years ahead, this portrait is dedicated.

THE ARTIST:

Harold Kee Welch



Nationally-known muralist Harold Kee Welch is an Illinois native, who lives where he was born, in the heart of the beautiful Spoon River country at Smithfield.

He studied at the Chicago Art Institute and worked with leading muralists as well as with commercial and fine artists. In 1960 he broke new artistic ground when he used a carborundum drill to etch into a 5 foot by 12 foot sheet of Plexiglas a mural honoring the great names of printing history. Done for Miehle-Goss-Dexter of Chicago, the unique mural, the first example of top lighting as an art form, graces the board room of the printing equipment firm.

A few years ago, after a long and successful career in commercial art he was commissioned to do a mural for two walls of the officer quarters at the Bank of Cuba, Illinois. *Springfield: A Portrait* is by far the largest work he has done, consuming more than a year's time.

A resemblance in his style to that of Diego Riviera's Mexico City murals is not entirely coincidental. A Mexico enthusiast, Welch has spent months living in and traveling through Mexico. Among his commercial art commissions was a series of paintings for American Airlines done around Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.

WHAT THE MURAL PORTRAYS

Bands of Kickapoo and Potawatomi Indians roamed the valley of the Sangamon river when the early settlers moved into the territory by river and land in 1817. They built forts, tilled the land, and traded with the Indians. Stores, mills and taverns marked the beginning of the business development of the community.

The principal figure in this giant mural is a 14½ foot spirit-like vision of Abraham Lincoln with his solemn war-weary face. Upper left, his tomb; below is the youthful woodsman; in the background his four log cabin homes beginning with his birthplace in Hodgenville, Kentucky. Then Gentryville, Indiana, the one he helped his father build at Goose Neck Prairie, Illinois, and

the cabin near Decatur, Illinois. Finally, the Springfield house and the White House.

At the right a middle-aged Lincoln with his six weeks growth of beard makes his famous farewell address to the people of Springfield from the back of the train. Behind him on the train is his wife Mary. Ann Rutledge is shown sitting at the feet of the monumental Lincoln.

Top right, the close relationship between the people and the banks in times of strife is symbolized by the war groups, first the Civil War with Lincoln visiting McClellan in the field, then World Wars I and II. Scarcely one month after Lincoln delivered his Gettysburg Address in 1863, the First National Bank of Springfield was founded.

The mural dramatizes the eventful years that follow and the part First National Bank played in fostering the growth of the city of Springfield.

The industrial and business development continues across the bottom to the right of the Lincoln section. Shown are the itinerant merchant, the small businesses, the modern office structures, state buildings including the state capitol, together with the Rees Carillon and the city skyline tying-in with the map of Illinois and the gold-leaf map of Sangamon County.

Continuing across the bottom section are the schools, school children, hospitals and churches, then the larger figures of tradesmen, businessmen and legislators all building together with confi-

dence. Springfield's four principal industries — agriculture, manufacturing, milling and insurance — are depicted here in four revolving free shapes. Between these shapes are the prize winning livestock, the racing horses and racing cars, the stadium and racetrack of the State Fair.

Leading into this group from the upper right are the housewives, farmers, 4-H and FFA members with blue ribbon fruits, grain, vegetables, cakes and canned goods.

On the right end of the mural the three modes of transportation are depicted as they apply to moving the bountiful products of this flourishing community.

WHAT THE MURAL PORTRAYS

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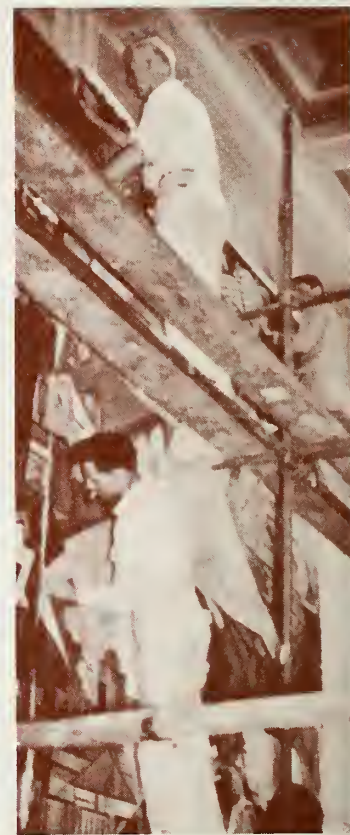
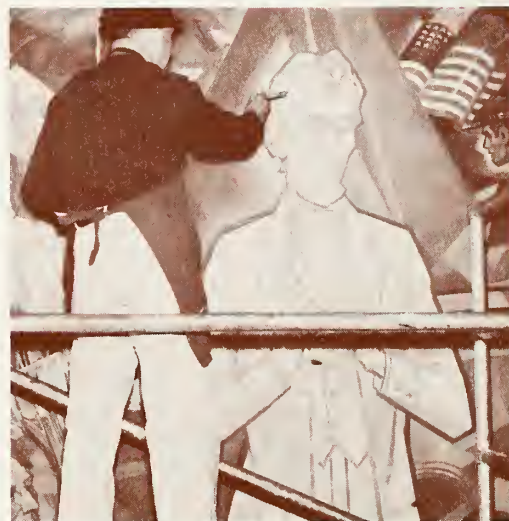
the cabin near Decatur, Illinois. Finally, the Springfield house and the White House.

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INSTALLATION



The mural was painted on canvas strips 10 feet wide by 16 feet long. When completed, the strips were hung on the lobby wall by a decorating firm. Ten 200 watt, adjustable "wall washer" spotlights in the ceiling illuminate the mural without causing highlights.



All of us at First National Bank of Springfield are proud of this contribution to the culture of one of America's most historic cities. We hope you enjoy viewing the mural often as our guest. You and your friends will always be welcome.

The First National Bank of Springfield 

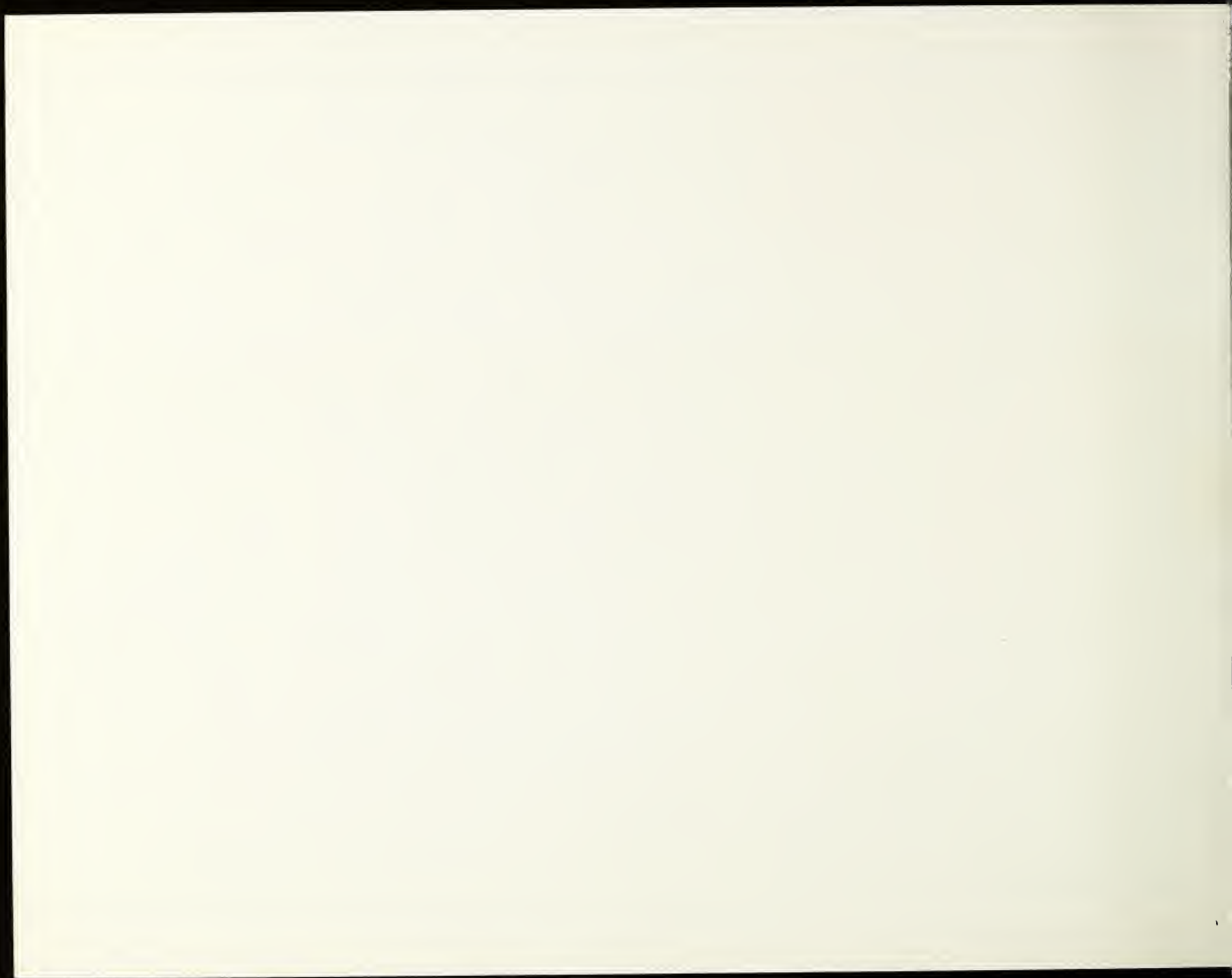




The FIRST NATIONAL BANK of SPRINGFIELD

101st ANNUAL REPORT for the year ending December 31, 1964





1964

The year 1964 was another record year for your bank. New highs were reached in all important areas, particularly in deposits, total assets, earnings and service to our depositors and customers. These are the indicators of a successful year. We hope to continue our rate of growth in all departments through superior service. Your management is most appreciative of the efforts of the entire staff to maintain this quality of service in all areas and to constantly improve it.

Earnings

Total operating earnings were at an all-time high of \$4,240,764, an increase of \$330,852, or 8.46% over those of 1963. The increase was due to the greater average earning assets held during the year, made possible by the increase in deposits, as interest rates were virtually unchanged.

Gross operating expenses were up \$351,648 to a total of \$3,442,966, 11.38% higher than 1963. Interest bearing accounts made up the greater part of the deposit increase of the year, accounting for \$3,916,952 of the increase. Interest on savings and time accounts amounted to \$1,683,809, up \$179,250, or 11.91% from that of the preceding year. Expenses incurred in connection with preparation, planning and programming of our electronic data processing system, which will not be operative until the second half of 1965, further increased the total.

Net operating earnings before Income Tax amounted to \$797,798, \$20,795 less than for 1963. However, net operating earnings after deducting Income Tax calculated on such earnings amounted to \$534,374, or \$5.34 per share. This compares with 1963 earnings of \$495,924, or \$4.96 per share, an increase of \$0.38 per share or 7.66%. The reduction of Income Tax for 1964 arises both from a higher amount of tax-free income received during the year from state and municipal bonds and a reduction of the corporate tax rate to 50% from that of 52% in 1963. The rate will be further reduced to 48% in 1965.

Total Income Tax payable for 1964 amounted to \$113,423, or \$150,000 less than that calculated on net operating earnings. U. S. Internal Revenue Regulations now allow banks to set up "Reserves for Possible Loan Losses" to limits prescribed therein. During 1964, \$300,000 was transferred from "Undivided Profits" to such a reserve. The amount transferred is not subject to Income Tax, consequently the 1964 tax was reduced by \$150,000 by establishing the reserve. It is contemplated that additional transfers to this reserve will be made in future years to the maximum permitted by law. Although your management knows of no probable losses on present loans nor anticipates any other than the normal small amount, it is of the opinion that establishing such a reserve for possible future losses is dictated by sound business judgment, as well as the reduction of tax. In the future, losses on loans will be charged to this reserve and recoveries made subsequently on such losses will be credited to it.

Dividends

Cash dividends of \$0.65 per share were paid quarterly during 1964, a total of \$2.60 per share. This amounted to \$260,000, or 48.6% of net operating earnings.

A cash dividend of \$0.70 per share was declared in 1964, payable January 1, 1965, an increase of \$0.05 per share. It is expected that this quarterly rate will be maintained, thus putting the dividend on an annual basis of \$2.80 per share.

Deposits

In 1964 deposits recorded a growth of \$4,519,999, bringing the year-end total to \$84,023,248, the highest in our history. Of this total \$38,351,450, or 45.6% were demand deposits, and \$45,671,797, or 54.4% were interest-bearing time deposits.

Loans

Demand for loans during 1964 was good; however, interest rates remained steady. Total loans rose \$4,292,088 during the year to a total of \$43,127,711 at the year end, distributed as follows:

Commercial, Personal and Collateral Loans.....	\$29,267,479
Real Estate Loans	\$13,860,232

Loans as of December 31, 1964 constituted approximately 51% of deposits and 47% of total assets.

Investment Securities

Securities held at the close of the year totaled \$34,880,371, a reduction of \$1,598,753 from that of the end of the previous year. They constituted approximately 38% of total assets, and were distributed as follows:

United States Government Securities.....	\$15,327,613
United States Agencies Securities.....	8,049,038
State and Municipal Securities.....	11,454,220
Other Securities	49,500

Average maturities of securities held at year-end were:

United States Government Securities.....	3 years, 7 months
United States Agencies Securities.....	10 months
State and Municipal Securities.....	9 years, 3 months

United States Government Securities were distributed as to maturities as follows:

Under one year	15.57%
One to five years	48.64%
Five to ten years	35.79%

Capital Funds

Combined Capital Stock, Surplus, Undivided Profits and Reserve for Contingencies, increased \$119,903 to \$6,221,647 on December 31, 1964. This addition amounts to almost \$1.20 per share and increased the book value of the Capital Stock to \$62.22 per share at year-end, versus \$61.02 at the preceding year-end. The increase is after the transfer of \$300,000 to the possible loan loss reserve from undivided profits, which amounted to \$3.00 per share.

Net operating earnings after Income Tax were equivalent to 8.59% of Capital Funds, or Stockholders' investment. This compares with 8.13% in 1963.

Personnel

The staff of your Bank at year-end 1964 consisted of 69 women and 72 men, a total of 141. Of these, 37 have been in the employ of the bank for fifteen years or longer.

On December 31, 1964 four of our valued employees retired after many years of loyal and efficient service. They were:

Gregory S. Luthy, Vice President & Trust Officer.....	48 years
Kenneth H. Miller	47 years
Edward C. Carroll, Vice President.....	44 years
G. Crum Walbaum, Trust Officer.....	30 years

These men will all be missed. Management wishes them many years of happy and rewarding retirement.

Employee benefits paid by the Bank in 1964 amounted to \$205,249. This total consisted of the following:

Social Security Tax and Unemployment Compensation Tax..	\$ 27,825
Major medical, hospitalization and life insurance premiums..	\$ 25,556
Contributions to Employee Retirement Fund.....	\$146,165
Other miscellaneous benefits.....	\$ 5,703

As in the past several years, the maximum allowed by Internal Revenue regulations was contributed to the Employee Retirement Fund. With profits at a high level, your directors were of the opinion that the maximum contribution should be made to fund as much of the pension benefits for past service as was allowable. The trust fund to provide the retirement benefits under the plan totaled \$1,091,018 as of December 31, 1964.

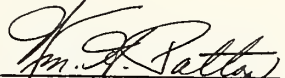
Automation

After several years of study, early in 1964 an order was placed for an International Business Machine 1440 Computer Complex to automate many of the processes and procedures of your bank. Delivery is scheduled for April 1, 1965. Shortly thereafter it is expected that the first operations, proof and transit, and all checking account bookkeeping will go "on line" on this complex for fully automated data processing. Many other accounting and report procedures will be automated as the programming is completed. This equipment will enable the bank to handle the rapidly mounting amount of paper work required in its operation much faster, more accurately, and efficiently, giving better service to our customers, more economically. In addition, it will be an invaluable tool in making management decisions, as information heretofore unobtainable will be readily available.

1965

We enter 1965 with optimism for the continued growth of our bank during the year in all departments. The economy of Springfield and our service area is strong, sound and vigorous. It appears that it will continue so, with a moderate, but steady increase in business during the entire year. With our physical facilities and our efficient staff geared to customer service, we cannot help but continue to grow and prosper.

Management is most appreciative of the support of the stockholders and the entire staff during the year past. We look forward with confidence to your continued interest and help in the future. We hope that you will continue to promote the growth of your bank by making use of its many services yourself, and urging your friends and associates to make First National their banking headquarters.


WILLIAM H. PATTON, President

Comparative Statement

Assets	December 31	December 31
	1964	1963
Cash and Due from Banks.....	\$11,447,379.49	\$9,301,149.09
United States Government Securities.....	15,327,613.41	15,996,336.04
Federal Reserve Bank Stock.....	120,000.00	120,000.00
State and Municipal Securities.....	11,454,219.54	10,886,935.00
Other Securities	8,098,538.28	9,595,853.33
Loans	43,127,711.87	38,835,623.44
Bank Premises and Equipment.....	1,462,260.07	1,422,071.30
Accrued Income Receivable	787,898.48	718,287.75
Other Assets	1,000.00	19,566.74
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$91,826,621.14	\$86,895,822.69

Member FDIC

t of Condition

	December 31 1964	December 31 1963
Liabilities		
Demand Deposits	\$38,351,450.87	\$37,748,403.78
Time Deposits	45,671,797.42	41,754,845.80
Total Deposits	<u>\$84,023,248.29</u>	<u>\$79,503,249.58</u>
Reserve for Taxes, Interest, etc.....	599,524.94	681,411.05
Reserve for Possible Loan Losses.....	300,000.00	
Income Collected but Unearned.....	678,244.78	600,698.32
Other Liabilities	3,955.70	8,719.36
	December 31 1964	December 31 1963
Capital Stock (Par \$20.00).....	\$2,000,000.00	\$2,000,000.00
Surplus	2,000,000.00	2,000,000.00
Undivided Profits	1,882,816.75	1,763,442.22
Reserve for Contingencies.....	338,830.68	338,302.16
Total Capital Funds	<u>6,221,647.43</u>	<u>6,101,744.38</u>
	<u>\$91,826,621.14</u>	<u>\$86,895,822.69</u>

Statement of Income

Operating Income	1964	1963
Interest on Loans.....	\$ 2,464,592.51	\$ 2,165,555.52
Interest and Dividends on Securities.....	1,157,277.82	1,175,549.70
Other Income	618,894.46	568,807.12
Total Operating Income.....	\$ 4,240,764.79	\$ 3,909,912.34
Operating Expenses		
Salaries and Employee Benefits.....	1,099,466.28	1,023,090.33
Interest Paid	1,683,809.39	1,504,559.56
Taxes Paid (Other than Income Taxes).....	69,078.37	65,264.53
Other Expense	590,612.39	498,404.10
Total Operating Expenses.....	\$ 3,442,966.43	\$ 3,091,318.52
Operating Earnings.....	797,798.36	818,593.82
Income Taxes applicable to operating earnings.....	263,423.83	322,669.13
Net Operating Earnings	534,374.53	495,924.69
Net Operating Earnings Per Share 100,000 shares.....	5.34	4.96
Dividends Paid Per Share.....	2.60	2.54
Book Value Per Share.....	62.22	61.02

Statement of Income (continued)

Nonoperating Additions and (Deductions)

Investment security profits.....	704.69	65,594.75
Income tax effect.....	(176.17)	(16,398.70)
Provision for possible Loan Losses.....	(300,000.00)	
Income tax reduction.....	150,000.00	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	(149,471.48)	49,196.05
Transferred to Undivided Profits.....	384,374.53	495,924.69
Transferred to Reserve for Contingencies.....	528.52	49,196.05
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Transferred to Capital Funds.....	\$384,903.05	\$545,120.74

Statement of Capital Funds

	1964	1963
January 1.....	\$ 6,101,744.38	\$ 5,816,623.64
Transferred from Statement of Income.....	384,903.05	545,120.74
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 6,486,647.43	\$ 6,361,744.38
Cash Dividend Declared.....	265,000.00	260,000.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
December 31.....	\$ 6,221,647.43	\$ 6,101,744.38

OFFICERS—1965

President

WILLIAM H. PATTON

BANKING DEPARTMENT

Vice Presidents

WILLIAM R. DELLERT

WALTER R. LOHMAN

JOHN G. MILLER

Vice President and Cashier

MURL GRAHAM

Assistant Vice Presidents

GEORGE A. FETTER

JAMES W. GHEEN

HAROLD C. HAWKINS

CLAUDE H. OSTERMEIER

ERNEST L. VALLORZ

Assistant Cashiers

RONALD L. CARTER

ARTHUR D. INGELS

ROBERT L. LEWIS

LAWRENCE MEIKLEJOHN

RICHARD A. MORRIS

FORREST D. NORRIS

MERLE M. WALDEN

Personnel Director

DONALD S. MITCHELL, JR.

TRUST DEPARTMENT

Vice President and Trust Officer

CHARLES N. HAMMOND

Trust Officer

WALLIS A. ADELL

Trust Officer and Farm Manager

THOMAS R. RANSON

Assistant Cashier

JOHN B. DOZIER

Assistant Trust Officer and Assistant Farm Manager

GEORGE C. ENGEL

Assistant Trust Officer

E. LAVERNE WOMACK

AUDITING DEPARTMENT

Vice President and Auditor

DONALD E. HOPWOOD

Assistant Auditor

G. HAROLD WILLIAMSON

DIRECTORS

JULIAN S. BOARDMAN

Partner, Thomas C. Smith's Sons
Funeral Director

W. A. CUTLER

(Retired)

GEORGE E. HATMAKER

President and Director
of The Franklin Life Insurance
Company

GEORGE P. KREIDER

President, Illini Motor Company

WALTER R. LOHMAN

Vice President

JOHN G. MILLER

Vice President

PAUL R. NOONAN

Vice President and Treasurer,
Dixon Bretscher Noonan, Inc.
Investment Securities—Finance

WILLIAM H. PATTON

President

ROBERT A. STEPHENS, JR.

Partner, Brown, Hay & Stephens
Attorney at Law

RAY D. STOUT

Farmer



This sixteen foot by eighty foot mural portraying the history of Sangamon County covers the west wall of our bank lobby. Unveiled May 23, 1964. Artist: Harold Kee Welch.





Firstbank
of Illinois Co.

1975
Annual
Report

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 1975

FOR THE YEAR

	1975	1974
Income before Securities Gains or Losses . . \$	2,109,376	\$ 1,972,153
Per Share	5.27	4.93
Net Income	2,116,220	1,953,255
Per Share	5.29	4.88
Cash Dividend Declared	640,000	580,000
Per Share	1.60	1.45

AT YEAR END

Total Assets	\$233,731,794	\$209,094,454
Deposits	179,721,824	165,236,173
Loans	114,678,849	106,995,436
Capital Notes	4,000,000	4,000,000
Shareholders' Equity	16,144,501	14,667,959
Book Value Per Share	40.36	36.67

ABOUT THE COVER

"LANDMARKS", a wall relief tapestry of six quadrants, was commissioned by The First National Bank of Springfield, Illinois, designed by tapestry weaver Muriel Nezhnie Helfman, fabricated by Edward Fields, Inc. and dedicated to the people of Springfield in October, 1975.

The "LANDMARKS" tapestry mural combines historic, cultural, economic, and physical fragments that generically symbolize the unique character of Springfield, Illinois. Thus, this portrayal of Abraham Lincoln stands for the best political inspiration and leadership. The State Seal eagle embodies the strength and authority of the government based in Springfield. The patchwork rainbow quilt denotes the optimism, courage, and perseverance of the pioneer spirit and heritage. The image of growing corn represents the general agrarian concerns of the region. The map of the central business district signifies the civilizing discipline imposed by human needs to generate transportation, commerce, and industry; while the inclusion of a map of Lake Springfield reflects a nurturing and cultivating of the natural environment to effect recreation, leisure, and prosperity.



The "Landmark" tapestry mural which is portrayed in our bank lobby combines historic, cultural, economic and physical fragments that symbolize the unique character of Springfield. The First National Bank of Springfield 5th and Adams.

"LANDMARKS"

A Wall Relief Tapestry of Six Quadrants

The "Landmarks" tapestry mural combines historic, cultural, economic and physical fragments that generically symbolize the unique character of Springfield, Illinois. The mural was commissioned by The First National Bank and dedicated to the people of Springfield in October, 1975.

Explanation of Quadrants

1. The state seal eagle embodies the strength and authority of the government based in Springfield.
2. The map of the central business district signifies the civilizing discipline imposed by human needs to generate transportation, commerce and industry. The two state capitol buildings are gold in order to distinguish them from the other sites in the city center map unit.
3. The patchwork rainbow quilt denotes the optimism, courage and perseverance of the pioneer spirit and heritage.
4. The portrayal of Abraham Lincoln stands for the best of political inspiration and leadership.
5. The image of growing corn represents the general agrarian concerns of the region.
6. The map of Lake Springfield reflects a nurturing and cultivating of the natural environment to effect recreation, leisure and prosperity.

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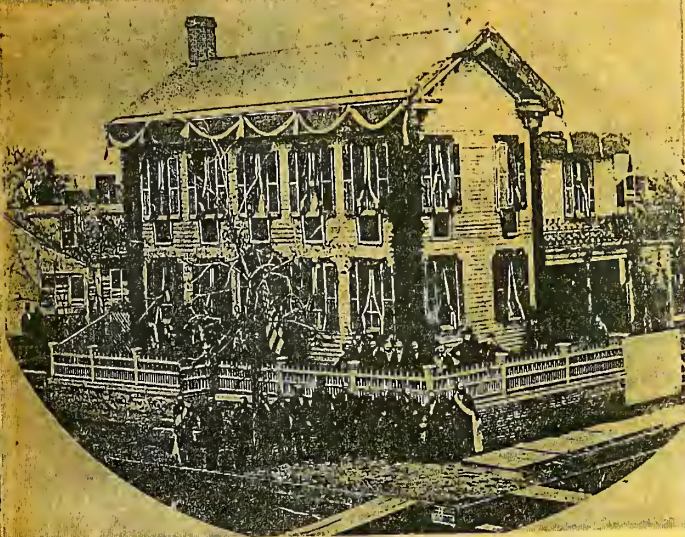
*The***FIRST**
NATIONAL BANK
of Springfield

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Abraham Lincoln's home as it appears now at the corner of 8th and Jackson Streets. The planned restoration will include removal of overhead utility lines and poles and a duplication

or restoration of as many aspects as possible of the neighborhood as it was in the 1860s. The Corneau house at the left stood on the southwest corner of the intersection in Lincoln's time.—Staff Photo.



Lincoln's home on the day of his burial in Oak Ridge Cemetery, May 4, 1865. The board walk at the side of the house will be duplicated as will the plank curbing. The brick re-

taining wall which is the foundation for the fence is the same wall there today. This and other photographs here which were taken in 1865 are the property of the Illinois State Historical Library and supplied by the library.

Illinois State Journal

SECTION 2

MONDAY, MARCH 15, 1965

PAGE 15



Another view of the Lincoln home, taken in May, 1865. The fence at left is similar to the fence around the Corneau house at the present time.

Lincoln Area Restoration Described To City Council

By CARYL CARSTENS

Persons working on the restoration of the Abraham Lincoln home neighborhood have a better idea of how the area really looked than those who have participated in restorations of earlier eras in other cities.

They have photographs taken in Springfield during the 1860s, many of them, at the time of the arrival of Lincoln's body in Springfield and its burial in Oak Ridge Cemetery on May 4, 1865.

The 18th century photographs shown here were used last week to illustrate to the City Council the recommendations of the Abraham Lincoln Area Advisory Commission for restoration of the neighborhood.

Eighth Street has been closed off between Capitol Avenue and Jackson Street as the first step toward the restoration and special restrictions have been placed on the neighborhood to be sure future building and remodeling are suited to the atmosphere it is hoped can be re-created in the area, the atmosphere of 1840-65.

There will be some modern underpinnings however. The wooden walk to be seen in the 1865 photographs to the south of the Lincoln home is to be duplicated. However, it will have a concrete foundation. The brick walk now in front of the house is very similar to the brick shown in the old photographs.

NOTICE THE curbing in front of the Lincoln home. It is made of two planks, prob-

ably oak, according to State Historian Clyde Walton, who is commission chairman. On the Jackson Street side, the curbing appears to taper to the eighth of one plank.

To the left of the Lincoln house can be seen the house which stood to the north in Lincoln's day. This is one of the few photographs in which it can be seen, even partially. According to Walton, the

wing stretching to the rear is visible. The front section of the L-shaped house was much the same as the Corneau house which now stands on that site. The Corneau house will be used as an information and reception center, beginning this spring.

One touch of realism that will not be attempted is duplication of the dirt street. However, it is proposed to re-cover it, probably with brick.

THE PLANTING of trees apparently hadn't started too many years before these photographs were made in 1865, since no trees of any size are

visible in the photographs. Most of the city's site was without trees originally, Walton points out, since Springfield was built on the prairie. The commission hopes to plant trees in the Lincoln home neighborhood as Springfield residents were doing in the 1860s.

Eighth Street will be lighted by gas lights of a type which were in use in Springfield during the 1860s, but not, as far as is known, on 8th Street. Central Illinois Light Co. has offered to build and install the lights at a cost of around \$8,000 without charge to the city.

Two Girls Arrested For Minor Theft

A 19-year-old Springfield girl and her 17-year-old accomplice were arrested Sunday night on charges they stole clothing from their former roommate, according to city detectives.

Linda Welker, 19, of 1625 S. 16th St. was lodged in city prison on a charge of theft. The 17-year-old is being held for family court, according to investigating officers, Detective Sgt. Hobart Rogers and Detective Ernest Dodson.

The detectives said the girls have been charged with stealing clothing from Florence Cooper, 1126 1/2 E. Miller St., with whom the girls stayed for "a few" days the first part of the month.

The Cooper woman, detectives said, reported at 3:20 p.m. Sunday that she had befriended two girls and discovered that several articles of clothing valued at \$83 were missing after the girls left.

Three Hurt In Two Separate Accidents

Three Springfield persons were injured Sunday in separate auto accidents in the city area.

Admitted to St. John's Hospital were Virginia Williams, 23, 114 1/2 N. 2nd St., head injury, and Colleen L. Rickey, 23, 1516 S. 6th St. head and right shoulder injuries. Jerry Stewart, 23, also of 114 1/2 N. 2nd St., was treated at the hospital for lacerations to the hip and head and then released.

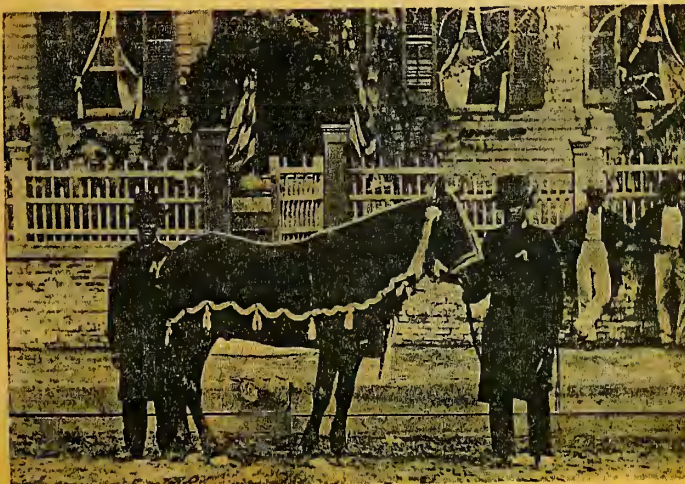
POLICE SAID Stewart and Miss Williams were injured at 1:50 a.m. when the car in which they were riding struck an unoccupied auto in the 1200

block of East Madison Street. Stewart, who was driving the car, was charged by police with improper lane usage after his eastbound car struck the auto parked on the south side of the street.

The other car is owned by John A. Wyzard, 318 12th Place, police said.

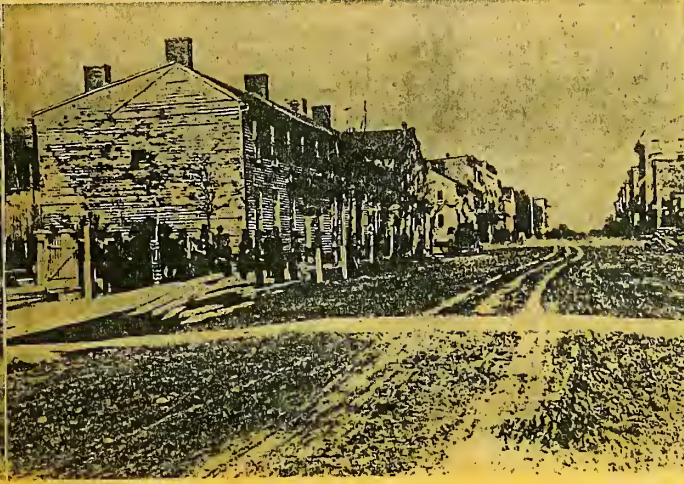
MISS RICKEY was injured at 4:10 a.m. in a one-car accident at U.S. Rt. 56 and Sangamon Avenue, according to hospital authorities.

Miss Rickey, according to a hospital report, was a passenger in a car driven by Tom Sastain, 2202 E. Converse St.



A photograph of Lincoln's horse, "Old Bob," prepared to march in the funeral procession, shows the curb planking and the dirt street surface common to Springfield streets in the

mid-Nineteenth Century. Notice the roses in the yard just bursting into bloom. Such plantings so far haven't been attempted in the present era. The present fence is very similar to the fence shown in this photograph.



No photographs of 8th Street are known to exist which show its overall appearance in 1865 as this photograph shows Adams Street between 3rd and 4th Streets. However, 8th Street may have looked much like this. It is certain that the

street surface was no more improved. The Globe Tavern is at the near left. Restoration of the Lincoln home neighborhood won't go as far as to return to this bare dirt look. A brick surface or soil cement may be used to cover the present cement surface.

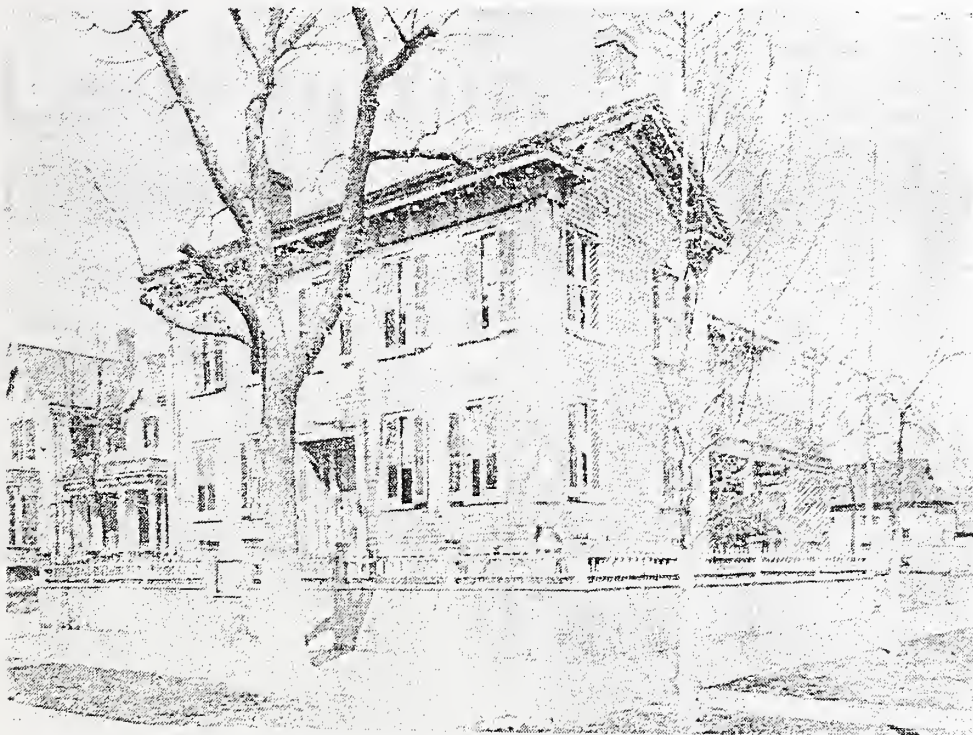


Phyllis Diller, TV, nightclub and movie comedienne, couldn't resist hamming it up—even while touring the Lincoln Home in Springfield, Ill., during her stopover there some weeks ago. Shown with Miss Diller are Stephanie Diller, daughter of the entertainer and King V. Hostick, also of Springfield, who conducts the Autograph Department of HOBBIES. Miss Diller's visit to the Lincoln Home was to check furnishing details for a Lincolniana room she is doing in her Hollywood home. Miss Diller is furnishing her Brentwood, Calif., home with other antiques she has collected through the years.

—Photo by James Galloway. Courtesy The State Journal-Register, Springfield, Ill.

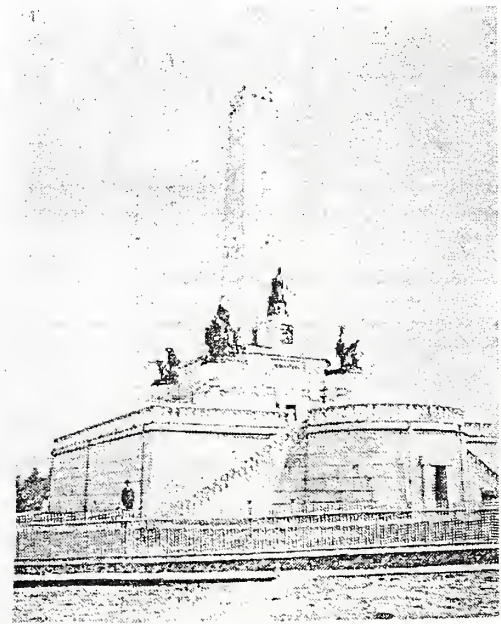
QUINCY HERALD-WHIG

Sunday, February 12, 1967



Lincoln home at Eighth and Jackson in Springfield, as photographed by I. J. Ploughe on glass negative before turn

of century. Frame house originally was painted brown, later white.



Lincoln tomb in Oak Ridge cemetery, also from Ploughe glass negative. Custodian in 1890s, named Johnston, stands at left in uniform of Grand Army of the Republic. Picket fence has long since disappeared. Tomb, which contains memorial hall and catacomb, has undergone considerable interior reconstruction since it was built century ago. Visitors may walk through and usually are given talk by custodian. George Cashman holds position today.

Early pictures of Lincoln shrines

Glass negatives show home and tomb in '90s

An all-but-forgotten phase of photography—the use of glass plate negatives—provides a rare look into the past today, the 158th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, Illinois' martyred Civil war president.

Lincoln's home in Springfield and his tomb in Oak Ridge cemetery there still attract thousands of visitors today. The pictures presented here, printed from glass negatives made by I. J. Ploughe about 75 years ago, show these

two shrines as they appeared shortly after the home was established as a state museum and before various reconstructions that have changed the tomb.

Photographer Ploughe was a resident of Galesburg, and an acquaintance of poet Carl Sandburg, when he took the pictures. He often traveled to obtain pictures of prominent persons and scenes, one trip being to Ohio to photograph President McKinley in his home.

Ploughe moved to a farm about two

miles east of Payson in 1908, later resumed photography and moved into Quincy, where he died.

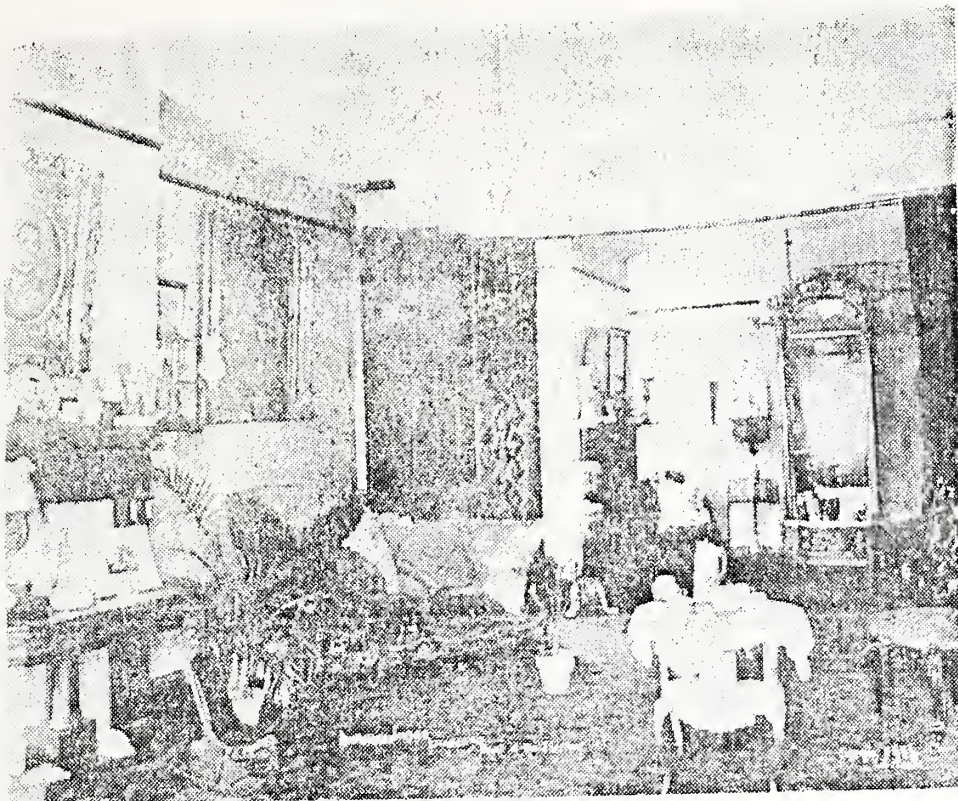
The glass negatives, made in the 1890s and well preserved through a process devised by George Eastman, whose invention of emulsion-coated film replaced the glass negative and its necessarily cumbersome accessories in picture taking, remained in the possession of a son, Fred Ploughe.

The elder Ploughe used a 17x20 camera to make the glass negatives, interiors requiring as much as a 15-

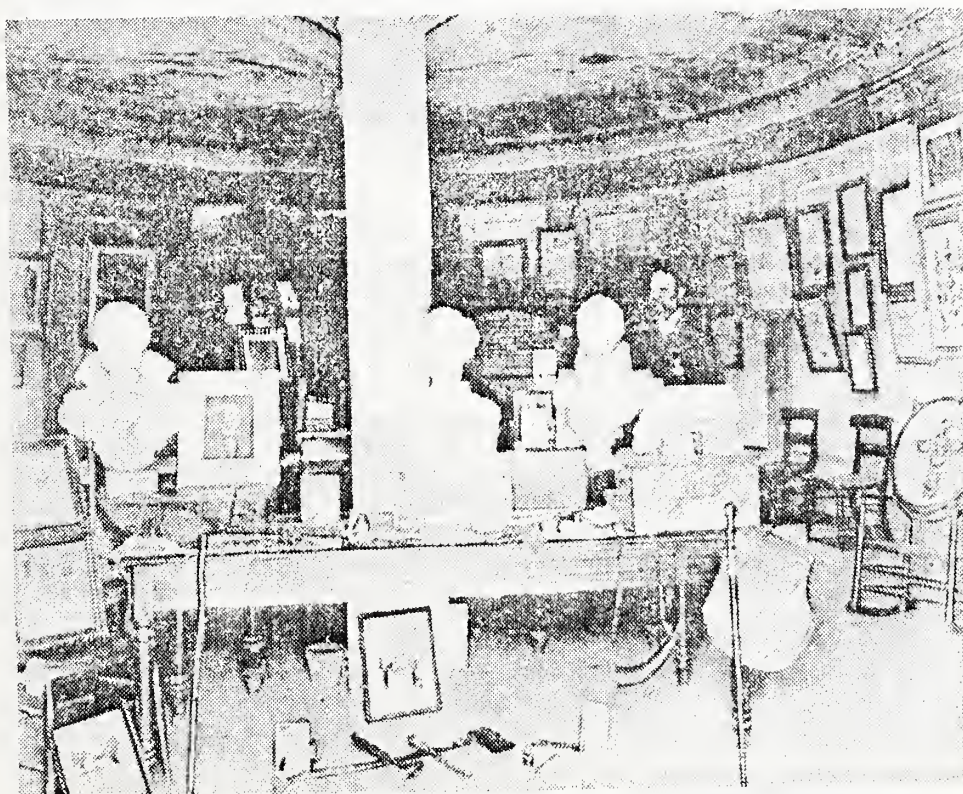
minute exposure.

Fred Ploughe, a tuckpointer who was responsible for restoring the appearance of many old brick buildings in Quincy, now resides in Overland Park, Kas. The negatives were acquired from him by The Herald-Whig.

The accompanying story of Lincoln's home and tomb was provided by Carl Landrum, Quincy historian whose feature, "A Century Ago in Quincy," appears regularly in the Sunday Editorial Features page.

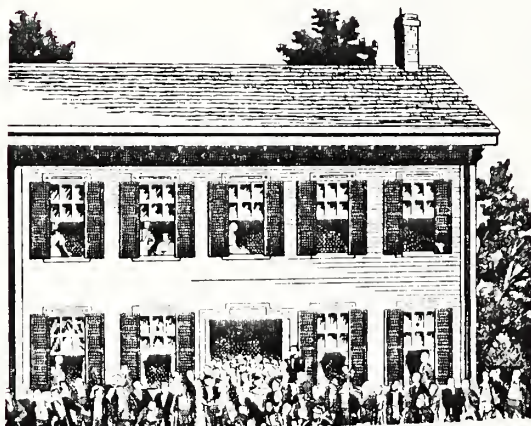


Ploughe's photograph of large double parlor in Lincoln home, where Civil war president was formally notified of his nomination as Republican candidate for president. Gas lights since replaced by electricity help date picture.



At time of picture memorial hall in tomb appeared to be catch all for articles used by or associated with Lincoln. Inscribed stone in center rear came from Roman wall 2,400 years old. Inscription reads: "To Abraham Lincoln, president for the second time of the American republic, citizens of Rome present this stone, from the wall of Servius Tullius, by which the memory of each of those brave assertors of liberty may be associated. Anno 1865." Found covered with rubbish in basement of White House, stone was placed in tomb's memorial hall by order of congress in 1870.

THE HOME OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN



Crowds of well wishers were greeted at his doorway by Abraham Lincoln during the 1860 campaign.

Abraham Lincoln's home on the northeast corner of Eighth and Jackson streets is the shrine most intimately associated with his life in Springfield. It is the only home he ever owned and to it he brought his wife and infant son, Robert Todd, after the first two years of their married life had been spent at boarding houses and at the Globe Tavern, where board and room were \$4.00 a week.

Abraham Lincoln purchased the house and lot for \$1,500 on May 2, 1844 from the Rev. Charles Dresser, the Episcopal rector who had married him and Mary Todd on Nov. 4, 1842. The house is the original structure, standing on the same location as when the Lincolns lived in it. However, the Lincolns did make some changes while they lived here. Originally it was a cottage of one and one-half stories, built in 1839 on a lot 50 x 152 feet. The wall and fence at the front were built in 1850. Lincoln wrote to Nathaniel Hay, local brick maker on June 11, and ordered "brick of suitable quality and sufficient number . . . to build a front fence on a brick foundation."

Five years later a similar fence was continued about one-fourth the length of the lot on Jackson Street with a high board fence running to the carriage house. Mrs. Lincoln in 1856, at a cost of \$1,300, had the house

made a full two stories. The front staircase was a part of the 1839 structure and led to the two half-story upstairs rooms.

The house is made of native hard woods and white pine; the framework and the floors are oak; the laths are hand-split hickory; the doors, door frames, and weatherboarding are pine grained to resemble walnut. The original shingles were hand-split white oak. Much of the construction was with wooden pegs plus the use of handmade nails.

The Lincolns made this their home from May, 1844 to February, 1861, except for the first part of Lincoln's term in Congress, when it was rented to Cornelius Ludlum for \$90 for a year beginning Nov. 1, 1847. Mrs. Lincoln and the two little boys, Robert and Edward, spent part of the time in Washington with Mr. Lincoln and the remainder at her father's home in Lexington, Kentucky. Three of the Lincolns' sons were born in this house, Edward Baker, "Eddie" (1846-1850), William Wallace, "Willie" (1850-1862) and Thomas, "Tad" (1853-1871), and "Eddie" died here.

Lincoln retained ownership and rented the house to Lucian Tilton, head of the Great Western railroad (now the N. and W.) for \$350 a year. The Tiltons continued to live in the house after Lincoln's assassination until they moved to Chicago in 1869. From then until 1880 the house was occupied by George H. Harlow, who was private secretary to Gov. Richard J. Oglesby, city editor of the *Illinois State Journal*, and Secretary of State for two terms. For the next three years Dr. Gustav Wendlandt, physician and later editor of a German-language newspaper, lived here.



In 1883 Osborn H. Oldroyd rented the home and made it a museum for his extensive collection of Civil War relics and Lincoln mementoes. Oldroyd was instrumental in persuading Robert Todd Lincoln to give the property to the State of Illinois and this was done in a deed recorded July 29, 1887. Oldroyd was then named the first custodian, a position he held until 1893 when he moved his collection to Washington, D. C. and later sold it to the federal government.

Go-Getters Go
OZARK
AIR LINES

Michael Kilian

Lincoln never knew he left this behind



SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—George McGovern, Hubert Humphrey, and whoever doesn't make it in 1976 need not despair. Being President may seem pretty neat, but lasting obscurity has its advantages, too.

As President, one belongs to the ages—etched in recorded history as an immortal. One's birthplace becomes a shrine. One's personal effects and other memorabilia are gathered up and preserved in museums for all to see for the rest of time.

Which is just my point. The evil a man does isn't quite all that lives after him.

Consider Abraham Lincoln. His fame and greatness are rivaled only by Washington's, and, as a martyred saint of a President, he has no peer.

Few men have been so loved and admired for so long after their passing. Few men have had their words and deeds so well recorded.

Every schoolboy and schoolperson learns about how Lincoln freed the slaves, ended the Civil War, and preserved the Union. Each learns about how he grew up in a log cabin, walked

miles thru the winter cold to return a book, and was forever splitting rails.

Endless volumes about Lincoln tell of his legislative years, his famous law cases, his penchant for telling funny stories, and even his habit of going around the White House in carpet slippers.

Indeed, almost as much has been written about Lincoln as has been about Jackie Onassis and Richard Nixon.

And so much having to do with Lincoln has been preserved. There are museums where you can see the actual bed on which he died and the rails he actually split. If you look carefully between all the motels, gift shops, and dayglo billboards in Gettysburg, you can see the actual place where he delivered his Gettysburg address.

But the ultimate in Lincoln preservation is here in Springfield, where the National Park Service maintains the home in which Lincoln and Mary and the children lived from 1844 until he became President in 1861.

I was able to walk thru their actual front parlor, where they received important visitors, and their sitting room, which is strewn with Mary's sewing things and little Tad's toys. Upstairs, I found Lincoln's actual bedroom, complete with his leather-bound books and shaving things.

The house is staffed by two National Park Service ladies, who, with hardly any prompting, happily informed me that the Lincolns bought horsehair furniture because it held up well with children and that Mary Lincoln was only 5 feet 2 and had a bothersome tendency to bloat.

But the most edifying moment came when I wandered out to the back porch and sat down on the steps next to the woodbox, which the National Park Service has preserved just as it was. Gee, I thought, here I am sitting in the actual place Lincoln must have sat when he took a break from chopping wood.

As I pondered this remarkable circumstance, I looked across the yard to a funny little shed-like building next to the fence by the stable. Curious, I walked across the yard—as Lincoln must have actually done so many times—went up to the little structure, and peered within the open door.

All I can say is that, if I ever become President, I'm going to instruct my wife to burn down the house immediately after the inauguration.

The National Park Service has preserved Lincoln's outhouse.

Happy birthday, U.S., from Springfield

Continued from first Travel page

will get a kick out of visiting the restored Capitol.

The furnishings are authentic in the rooms, which include two legislative chambers, the Supreme Court chamber, a rotunda, the secretary of state's office and governor's reception room.

The building also contains the Illinois State Historical Library and, just for the Bicentennial, a copy of the Gettysburg address in Lincoln's handwriting (one of five copies he wrote) will be put on display.

A look at some other Bicentennial things in his area:

The Lincoln Post Road. A circular route between Springfield and New Salem, 22 miles away, has been created and marked so it's easy to follow. The northern leg, probably much used by Lincoln, goes from the northeast corner of the Old Capitol westward out of the city and north on Illinois 29 to the Athens blacktop road and west to Illinois 97 and New Salem. You pass through country that is alternately flat and then marked with gentle ridges. You return to Springfield by going south on 97 to Illinois 125 and east. This routing was worked out as authentic by historians at the behest of the Central Illinois Tourism Council.

The Long Nine Museum. Here's an eye-opener at Athens, a town that nearly died. Several years ago, a local television station said Athens pronounced hereabouts with a broad A as in "baby" was dying. The Athenians were aroused. They took a two-story frame building built up in 1832 as a store and post office and made a museum out of it. It's called Long Nine for Lincoln and eight cohorts, all tall men hence "Long Nine") who gained the state capital for Springfield and were wine and dined in this structure at Athens.

The museum features some well-done dioramas about the town. There's also a store full of quirky items and artifacts (tools, bottles and such) found when the museum building was restored.

But the museum was only the beginning. The town's main drag, nearly exhausted five years ago, is showing signs of life. There's a museum devoted to river boating and several stores with gift items. There's even a new library and park, both brought into being in the of pride that has swept Athens.



Oliver P. Parks of Decatur, Ill., and his grandson, Danny West, 5, play with one of the old telephones Parks donated to the new museum in Springfield.

The Parks Telephone Museum. This was opened the other day on the grounds of the Illinois Bell building at 529 S. 7th St., Springfield. It shows 25 antique wall phones and 92 others in classy surroundings. Director Richard Kahne

said it is hoped that the museum, now open only on weekdays, will soon be open seven days a week.

The museum story: The phones were collected by Oliver J. Parks, a retired phone company man, now living in Decatur with his wife, Dorothy. Parks, who picked up the phones here and there, decided the best way to make sure the collection would remain intact was to donate them to the phone company, which created the museum.

New Salem. This remains one of the best restorations in the country because authentic buildings have lovingly been created on the precise sites occupied by stores, houses and a tavern in 1831-1837, the years Lincoln lived here.

Illinois Country Opry. Surprise. One of the top country and Western places in the nation is just a mile south of New Salem on Illinois 97. It features top stars. Coming up: Mickey Gilley—March 20, T. G. Sheppard March 27, Jerry Reed April 3, Bobby Bare April 10, Cal Smith April 17 and Johnny Russell April 24. For further attractions, write to the theater at Box 313, Petersburg, Ill. 62675. The present 1,500-seat theater will soon be replaced by a 4,000-seat place.

Springfield Municipal Opera. Don't be frightened. These shows, presented on the shores of Lake Springfield, are pop, not op. The season's offerings: "1776" June 25-27 and June 30-July 4; "Irene" July 16-18 and July 21-25; "Bye Bye Birdie" Aug. 6-8 and Aug. 11-15 and "Calamity Jane" Aug. 27-29 and Sept. 1-5.

Clayville Rural Life Center. Around a re-

Top attractions

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Abraham Lincoln's tomb here remains the top visitor attraction in the Illinois capital.

Last year, 503,509 persons walked through the wedding-cake tomb. Attendance at other area attractions in 1975:

Lincoln's Home	493,982
New Salem	435,694
State Museum	309,228
Old Capitol	220,960
State Capitol	200,000

stored stagecoach stop about 20 miles west of Springfield on U.S. 36 is something you can call a living museum. It shows farm life of a century ago and the third weekend of each month from April to October the village sees a wide variety of crafts and arts of pioneers.

Keeping a Springfield home in shipshape for the Lincolns

By Margaret Carroll

SPRINGFIELD—Shirlee Laughlin never has seen the folks whose shuttered 2-story frame house she cleans and helps maintain, but she feels she has learned to know them as human beings rather than historical figures. Shirlee is the housekeeper in Abraham Lincoln's home here.

"I resent very much the demigod image of Mr. Lincoln," she said in affection for the circuit-riding attorney who sought the house for his wife, Mary, and infant son, Robert Todd, in 1844. "He was human, a husband and father. He was humble and sensitive, but he was ambitious as well. He always was tender but also could be aggravating and stingy."

She disagrees with those who believe that Mrs. Lincoln wasn't right mentally. She thinks of Mary Lincoln as more of a nervous woman, adversely affected by life with a husband whose work required him to travel.

"Once, when their son, Tad [Thomas] was ill, Mary tried to locate Abraham in Chicago; but he had gone farther north without leaving word about his destination, and she couldn't find him. During her lifetime, three of their children died, and her husband was assassinated. And there were no tranquilizers in those days," Mrs. Laughlin added.

When she was 9, the Springfield native recalled, she earned an A on her essay about why she liked Lincoln. She has been a Lincoln devotee ever since.

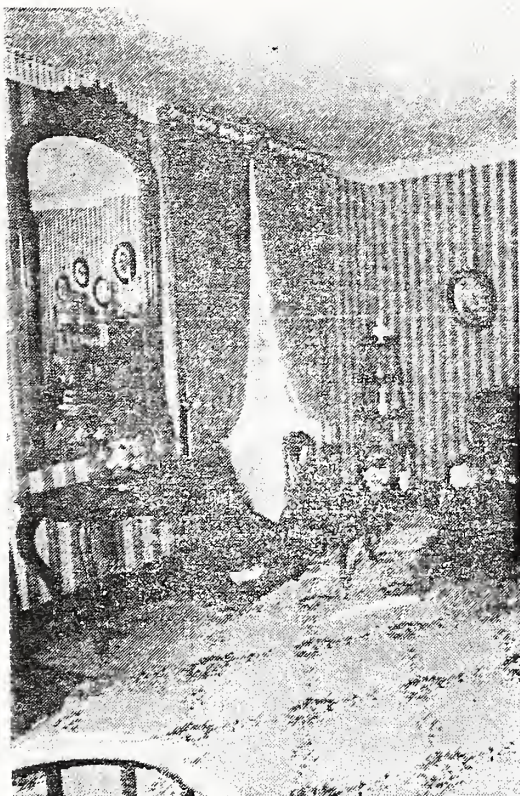
"IF I HAD BEEN around Springfield at that time, I'd have given Mary a run for her money," she admitted.

After careers with commercial airlines and the Air Force, she returned to her hometown; three years ago, when she heard that the National Park Service was looking for a housekeeper for the Lincoln shrine, she applied. During her varied careers, Shirlee also had had formal and informal education in the care of antiques and had owned an antiques shop in Kansas City, Mo. She



Shirlee Laughlin is housekeeper in the Lincoln home, a national shrine.





Tribune Photos by Earl Gustie

Winter winds still are deterred by weighted draperies.

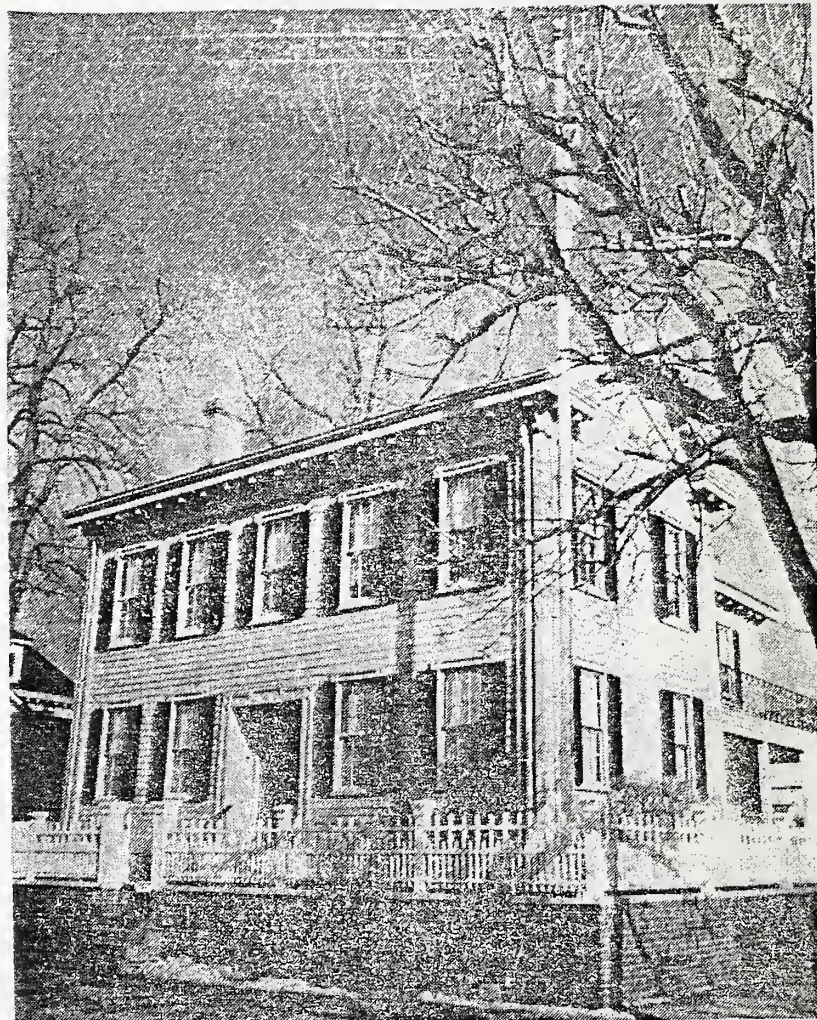
came to her present position well qualified.

Mrs. Laughlin is as much a curator as a housekeeper. After a morning that might include vacuuming and ostrich-feather dusting, cleaning windows with ammonia water, and polishing light wood with lemon oil and dark wood with linseed oil, vinegar, and turpentine, she may spend an afternoon restoring and repairing furniture for the Lincolns' home.

"We clean and reglue when necessary," she said. "We strive to present the furniture as still living, as Mary would have presented it to her visitors."

"I think the clocks are the best feature of the house. If they could talk, they would cover more years than the other furnishings. They've ticked away the hours and the time and still are

Continued on page 20



The Abraham Lincolns lived in this house in Springfield for 17 years.

Preserving his way of life

Keeping house for Lincoln

Continued from first Tempo page

doing so.

Touring with Mrs. Laughlin the only home Lincoln ever owned is as entertaining as it is educational. She wants visitors to know the Lincolns as people and to experience vicariously the life they led for 17 years, before they went to Washington.

In the sitting room, she touches the square grand piano fondly. "This piano was played at the Lincolns' wedding," she said. "It was in the home of Mrs. Lincoln's older sister, Mrs. Edwards."

LOOKING AT EARLY portraits of Mary and Abraham, one learns from Mrs. Laughlin that the Lincolns never were photographed together. Mary was 5 feet 1 and Abraham was 6 feet 4. Mary thought the difference in their heights made them look ridiculous together, so photographs showing them together are composites.

Wallpapers in the sitting room and Mr. Lincoln's bedroom are exact copies. Others in the house are patterns of that day. Furnishings are of the 1840-60 period. The house contains 44 original Lincoln pieces, but security precautions preclude identification.

"There are no photographs of the Lincolns' son, Edward," Mrs. Laughlin explained. "At that time children never were photographed before the age of 3 because it required standing still for 45 minutes. Edward died here when he was 4. After Willie died at 12, Mary never wore any color but black." A third son, Tad, died at 18. Only Robert Todd Lincoln lived a long life, dying at 83 in 1926.

In the Lincolns' Springfield parlor, a "fancy room" used only for special occasions, red velvet draperies hang from the tall windows. The drapes are weighted at the bottom to keep out the cold.

"IN SUMMER, the heavy fabric was removed, and the lace curtains were weighted to control the insect population when the windows were open," she added. No screens or air-conditioning in those days. . . ."

A wood-burning stove in the parlor was one of the modern improvements Mary and Abraham made in the house as their financial status improved. In 1856 Mrs. Lincoln used money she had inherited, the housekeeper said, to help finance enlarging the original structure from a one-story cottage with two attic rooms to a full two stories. The Lincolns had purchased the house and lot for \$1,500 in 1844 from the Rev. Charles Dresser, the clergyman who had married them in November, 1842.

On a parlor wall hang framed pictures of the Lincolns' home that appeared in Frank Leslie's Illustrated magazine of March 9, 1861, after the 16th President and his family had moved to Washington. These pictures were a help to historians involved in the original restoration of the Lincoln home. Before the house was named a national historic site, under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service, the State of Illinois maintained the home, which is open to the public.

Accessories are as important in demonstrating the lifestyle of the Springfield Lincolns as are the large horsehair-upholstered pieces characteristic of the decor.

PORTRAITS OF GEORGE and Martha Washington hang over the fireplace in the parlor. Washington was one of Lincoln's heroes; another was Henry Clay, whose portrait hangs in Mr. Lincoln's bedroom. Pictures of Lincoln's three law partners—John T. Stuart, Stephen T. Logan, and William H. Herndon—hang above knickknack shelves.

A booklet of leaves pressed on paper and placed between two seashells is an example of the handcraft projects engaged in by Mrs. Lincoln and other women of her era.

In the dining room are samples of the Lincolns' blue sprig patterned china, a lidded syllabub dessert set, and a Ben Franklin cruet set with bells.

In the bedrooms upstairs, feather mattresses are fluffed under quilts, and nap couches are ready for daytime snoozers.

"After those mattresses were smoothed out with a broom handle, no one was allowed to lie on them during the day," Mrs. Laughlin explained.

IN LINCOLN'S BEDROOM, with its high ceiling, his bed doesn't appear to be particularly large; but it's 6 feet 11 long and 5 feet wide. Mrs. Lincoln's bedroom was adjacent.

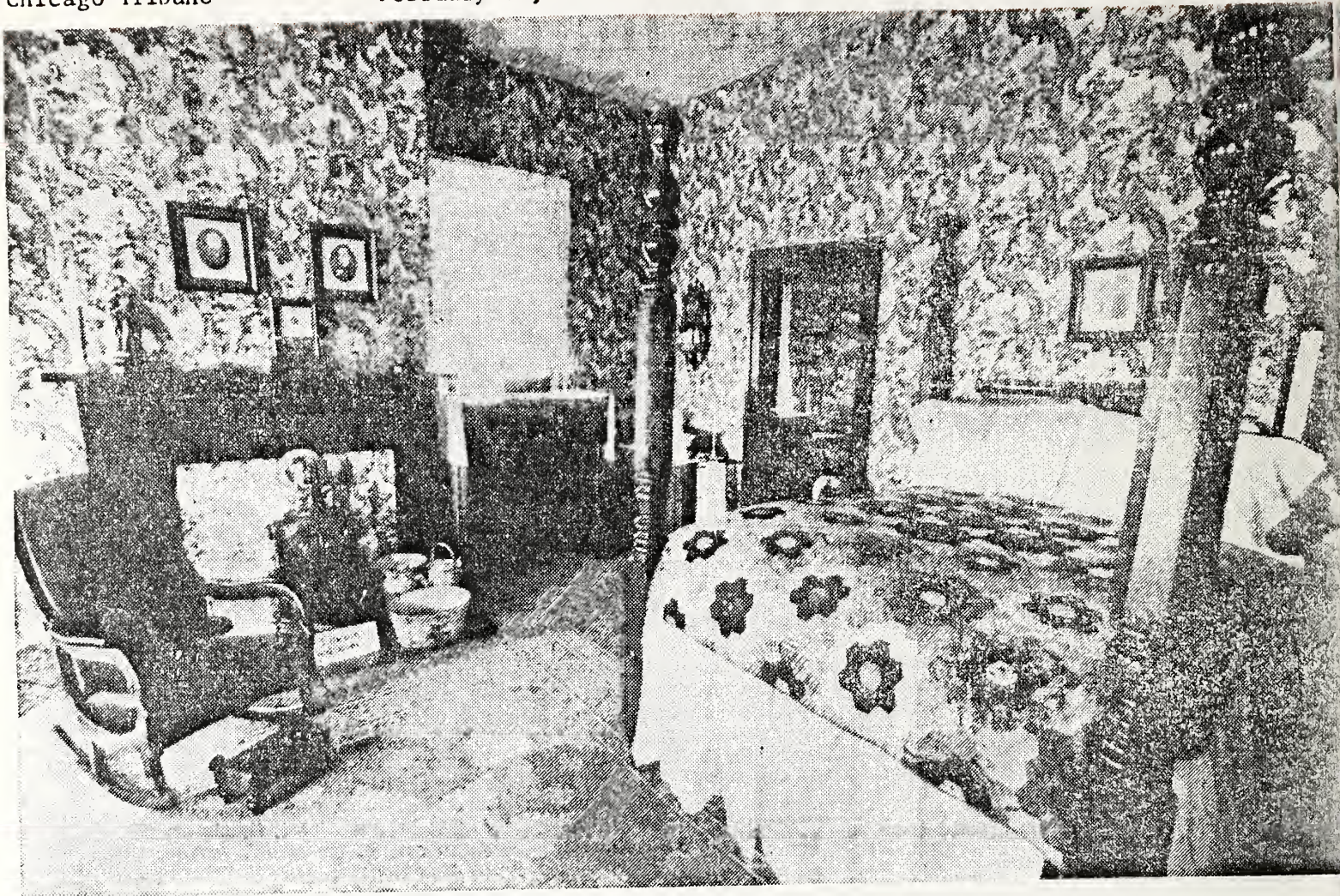
"People will sometimes ask why they didn't share a bedroom," Mrs. Laughlin said. "But in those days houses didn't have bathrooms. Facilities were provided in each bedroom."

Over Mrs. Lincoln's bed are pictures of Victorian figures, paper sculpture on paper not unlike the "Holly Hobby" three-dimensional craft popular today.

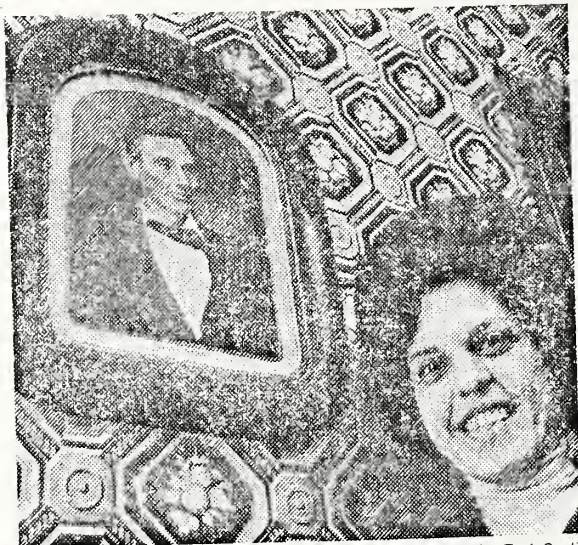
Meanwhile, down the back stairs, the kitchen is equipped with a wood-burning stove Abraham purchased for Mary in 1859.

"He wanted his wife to have the latest appliances," Mrs. Laughlin explained. "At the same time, the house was painted Quaker brown, the color it is today."

KEEPING THE HOUSE the home the Lincolns knew takes tender, loving care. Carpeting is shampooed and reversed periodically. The straw that once was used for matting has given way to contemporary matting. Clean curtains go up every spring and fall. Quilts are changed every few months. Lamps are treated with lamp black, the stoves with stove black. Pewter candlesticks are cleaned with a chalk dust potion that works as well in 1976 as it did in 1856.



Lincoln slept here, in a 6-foot-11-inch by 5-foot bed, on a feather mattress smoothed daily by a broom handle.



Tribune Photo by Earl Gustie

Lincoln and Laughlin pose for the camera.

Woodwork—walnut downstairs, Illinois pine upstairs—is tended carefully. After cutting through 13 layers of paint, the restorers prize the original wood. Plexiglas panels have been placed before window panes to ward off the deteriorating effects of the sun's ultraviolet rays upon the furnishings. Mrs. Laughlin hopes the house can be repainted soon. Her own current project is the restoration of the door to Robert's room.

As she stood near a portrait of the cleanshaven Lincoln and explained that he wore a beard only the last five years of his life, she leaned against the wall for a moment. Then, as if she had been reminded of something, she stood up straight again and said, smil-

Keeping a Springfield home in shipshape for the Lincolns

By Margaret Carroll

SPRINGFIELD—Shirlee Laughlin never has seen the folks whose 2-story frame house she cleans and helps maintain, but she feels she has learned to know them as human beings rather than historical figures. Shirlee is the housekeeper in Abraham Lincoln's home here.

"I resent very much the demigod image of Mr. Lincoln," she said in affection for the circuit-riding attorney who bought the house for his wife, Mary, and infant son, Robert Todd, in 1844. "He was human, a husband and father. He was humble and sensitive, but he was ambitious as well. He always was tender but also could be aggravating and stingy."

She disagrees with those who believe that Mrs. Lincoln wasn't right mentally. She thinks of Mary Lincoln as more of a nervous woman, adversely affected by life with a husband whose work required him to travel.

"Once, when their son, Tad [Thomas] was ill, Mary tried to locate Abraham in Chicago; but he had gone farther north without leaving word about his destination, and she couldn't find him. During her lifetime, three of their children died, and her husband was assassinated. And there were no tranquilizers in those days," Mrs. Laughlin added.

When she was 9, the Springfield native recalled, she earned an A on her essay about why she liked Lincoln. She has been a Lincoln devotee ever since.

"IF I HAD BEEN around Springfield at that time, I'd have given Mary a run for her money," she admitted.

After careers with commercial airlines and the Air Force, she returned to her hometown; three years ago, when she heard that the National Park Service was looking for a housekeeper for the Lincoln shrine, she applied. During her varied careers, Shirlee also had had formal and informal education in the care of anti-

ques and had owned an antiques shop in Kansas City, Mo. She came to her present position well qualified.

Mrs. Laughlin is as much a curator as a housekeeper. After a morning that might include vacuuming and ostrich-feather dusting, cleaning windows with ammonia water, and polishing light wood with lemon oil and dark wood with linseed oil, vinegar, and turpentine, she may spend an afternoon restoring and repairing furniture for the Lincolns' home.

"We clean and reglue when necessary," she said. "We strive to present the furniture as still living, as Mary would have presented it to her visitors."

"I think the clocks are the best feature of the house. If they could talk, they would cover more years than the other furnishings. They've ticked away the hours and the time and still are

doing so.

Touring with Mrs. Laughlin the only home Lincoln ever owned is as entertaining as it is educational. She wants visitors to know the Lincolns as people and to experience vicariously the life they led for 17 years, before they went to Washington.

In the sitting room, she touches the square grand piano fondly. "This piano was played at the Lincolns' wedding," she said. "It was in the home of Mrs. Lincoln's older sister, Mrs. Edwards."

LOOKING AT EARLY portraits of Mary and Abraham, one learns from Mrs. Laughlin that the Lincolns never were photographed together. Mary was 5 feet 1 and Abraham was 6 feet 4. Mary thought the difference in their heights made them look ridiculous together, so photographs showing them together are composites.

Wallpapers in the sitting room and Mr. Lincoln's bedroom are exact copies. Others in the house are patterns of that day. Furnishings are of the 1840-60 period. The house contains 44 original Lincoln pieces, but security precautions preclude identification.

"There are no photographs of the Lincolns' son, Edward," Mrs. Laughlin explained. "At that time children never were photographed before the age of 8 because it required standing still for so long. Edward died here when he was 4. After Willie died at 12, Mary never wore any color but black." A third son, Tad, died at 18. Only Robert Todd Lincoln lived a long life, dying at 83 in 1926.

In the Lincolns' Springfield parlor, a "fancy room" used only for special occasions, red velvet draperies hang from the tall windows. The drapes are weighted at the bottom to keep out the cold.

"IN SUMMER, the heavy fabric was removed, and the lace curtains were weighted to control the insect population when the windows were open," she added. No screens or air-conditioning in those days. . . ."

A wood-burning stove in the parlor was one of the modern improvements Mary and Abraham made in the house as their financial status improved. In 1856 Mrs. Lincoln used money she had inherited, the housekeeper said, to help finance enlarging the original structure from a one-story cottage with two attic rooms to a full two stories. The Lincolns had purchased the house and lot for \$1,500 in 1844 from the Rev. Charles Dresser, the clergyman who had married them in November, 1842.

On a parlor wall hang framed pictures of the Lincolns' home that appeared in Frank Leslie's Illustrated magazine of March 9, 1861, after the 16th President and his family had moved to Washington. These pictures were a help to historians involved in the original restoration of the Lincoln home. Before the house was named a national historic site, under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service, the State of Illinois maintained the home, which is open to the public.

Accessories are as important in demonstrating the lifestyle of the Springfield Lincolns as are the large horsehair-upholstered pieces characteristic of the decor.

PORTRAITS OF GEORGE and Martha Washington hang over the fireplace in the parlor. Washington was one of Lincoln's heroes; another was Henry Clay, whose portrait hangs in Mr. Lincoln's bedroom. Pictures of Lincoln's three law partners—John T. Stuart, Stephen T. Logan, and William H. Herndon—hang above knickknack shelves.

A booklet of leaves pressed on paper and placed between two seashells is an example of the handcraft projects engaged in by Mrs. Lincoln and other women of her era.

In the dining room are samples of the Lincolns' blue sprig patterned china, a lidded syllabub dessert set, and a Ben Franklin cruet set with bells.

In the bedrooms upstairs, feather mattresses are fluffed under quilts, and nap couches are ready for daytime snoozers.

"After those mattresses were smoothed out with a broom handle, no one was allowed to lie on them during the day," Mrs. Laughlin explained.

IN LINCOLN'S BEDROOM, with its high ceiling, his bed doesn't appear to be particularly large; but it's 6 feet 11 long and 5 feet wide. Mrs. Lincoln's bedroom was adjacent.

"People will sometimes ask why they didn't share a bedroom," Mrs. Laughlin said. "But in those days houses didn't have bathrooms. Facilities were provided in each bedroom."

Over Mrs. Lincoln's bed are pictures of Victorian figures, paper sculpture on paper not unlike the "Holly Hobby" three-dimensional craft popular today.

Meanwhile, down the back stairs, the kitchen is equipped with a wood-burning stove Abraham purchased for Mary in 1859.

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Tribune Photos by Earl Gustie

Winter winds still are deterred by weighted draperies.



Tribune Photo by Earl Gustie

Lincoln and Laughlin pose for the camera.



Lincoln slept here, in a 6-foot-11-inch by 5-foot bed, on a feather mattress smoothed daily by a broom handle.



Shirlee Laughlin is housekeeper in the Lincoln home, a national shrine.



The Abraham Lincolns lived in this house in Springfield for 17 years.

Abraham Lincoln Home Isn't Haunted, But ...

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (UPI) — Abraham Lincoln left his Springfield home 115 years ago and never returned. Yet, his presence can still be felt there, a National Park Service employee says.

"The house is not haunted. There's nothing evil about this. But things have happened which make me feel Mr. Lincoln's presence," said Shirlee Laughlin, who has ushered visitors through the two-story frame house since 1972.

THE MOST startling episode occurred in 1973, Mrs. Laughlin said. "It was at night, and the night watchman called me. He said strange things were happening, and he wanted someone there to confirm them, to prove he wasn't losing his mind.

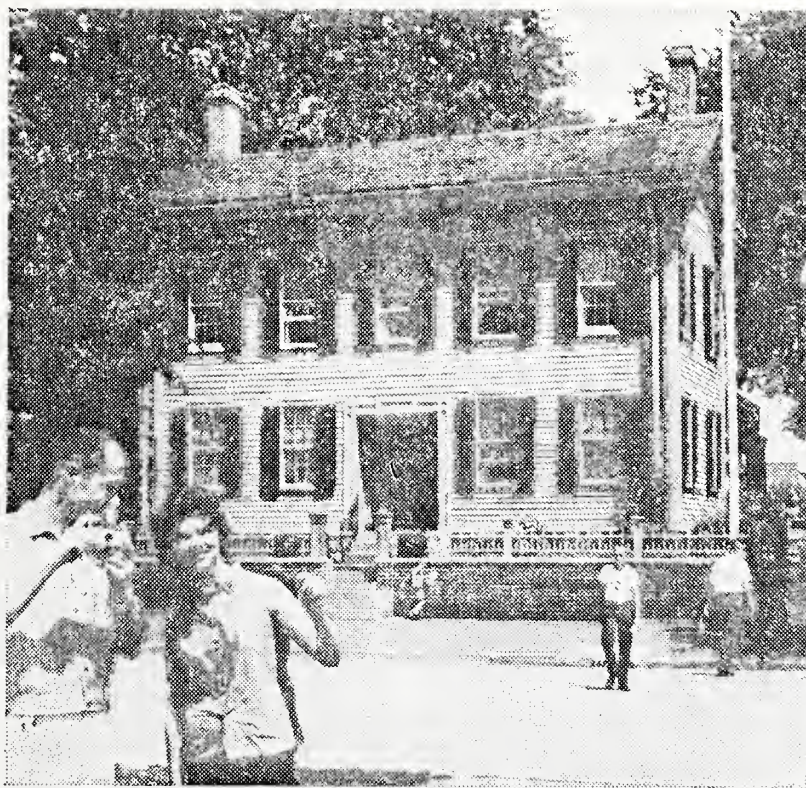
"I thought it was his imagination," she said, "but when I got there, there was movement in the house. You could hear footsteps and doors closing."

Mrs. Laughlin said she sought a natural explanation "but the Weather Bureau said there was no wind, earthquakes or anything else that could cause it."

A sophisticated alarm system, installed when the National Park Service took charge of the Lincoln home, has gone off mysteriously several times.

"IN EACH instance, the alarm company swore the equipment was perfect," Mrs. Laughlin said. "The only way it could have happened is if there were movement in the house."

Once, Mrs. Laughlin found a key with a ribbon attached. She took it to a curator who said it was in use around 1857. It was tried on a locked drawer for which the key



'You Could Hear Footsteps and Doors Closing'

...strange phenomena have been reported by guide

was lost. The new-found key worked.

Other times, Mrs. Laughlin said, she has seen Lincoln's rocking chair rock — with no one in it. She once tried to move a chair out of Mrs. Lincoln's bedroom because its authenticity was in question. She felt tapping at her shoulder but no one was there. Later, the chair was determined to be one Mrs. Lincoln owned.

"There have been other things,

too, like pieces of furniture moving around, and once a feather was carried clear across the room and back again," Mrs. Laughlin said.

"A lot of people laugh and say I'm cracking up, that all these things can be accounted for naturally, and at first, I wasn't real sure myself. Then I visited one of the guides who was here when the state ran the home, and she told me she felt some of the same things," Mrs. Laughlin said.

Swing away

Happy birthday, U.S., from Springfield

By John Justin Smith
Daily News Travel Editor

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — While places like Philadelphia, Boston and Washington have been making lots of noise about the Bicentennial, Springfield quietly has been putting together what may be a stunning birthday party for the nation.

There will be an exciting sound-and-light show at the Old Capitol, a gem of history.

There's a new historical tour.

A new museum, featuring perhaps the best collection of antique telephones in the nation, opened just this week.

And many other things are in the offing to make Springfield well worth a Bicentennial visit.

Hovering over all is Springfield's greatest attraction, the spirit of Abraham Lincoln.

THESE THINGS ARE NOT something slapped together for the Bicentennial. Most are permanent and will enhance Springfield as a place to see for years to come.

Of the \$587,000 sound-and-light show at the Old Capitol, William K. Alderfer, state historian, said:

"It's Illinois' gift to the United States . . . a legacy for years to come."

The show, patterned after such shows in Europe and elsewhere in the world, including the Sphinx and pyramids of Egypt, will open at 9 p.m., July 4.

It will then be staged nightly through September and closed down until next spring.

EACH EVENING, TWO SETS of bleachers will be trucked into place in the new mall before the Old Capitol. The 400 seats will be allotted on a first-come basis.

Because the space is limited, many persons are nearly sure to be included out, unfortunately.

A preview of the script shows that it will be faithful to the history of the rugged old building. Alderfer has demanded this of the writer, Charles Guggenheim, an expert in the field of such scripting.

In the show, actors and actresses will nar-



Illinois' Old Capitol at Springfield will be the star of a Bicentennial sound-and-light show.

rate the story of the building with heavy emphasis on Lincoln's role in its history. A variety of lighting techniques will be used to add drama.

LINCOLN'S ROLE GOES back to the beginning. After he and others persuaded the Legislature in 1837 to move the capital from Vandalia to Springfield, the Capitol was built of local limestone. It was first occupied in 1840.

Lincoln served there as a legislator and a lawyer appearing before the state Supreme Court in more than 200 cases, some of great significance in making law. In the Capitol, he made many speeches, the most famous being

the 1858 "House Divided" speech, which brought him national attention and sparked the debates with Stephen A. Douglas on questions revolving around slavery.

Three constitutional conventions were held in the Old Capitol.

In 1876, it was replaced by the present Capitol and continued in use as the Sangamon County Courthouse until the state repurchased it in 1961 and spent millions restoring and furnishing it.

IF YOU SHOULD HAPPEN to find you can't get a seat at the sound-and-light show, you'd

Turn to Page 28, Column 1

Lincoln Home



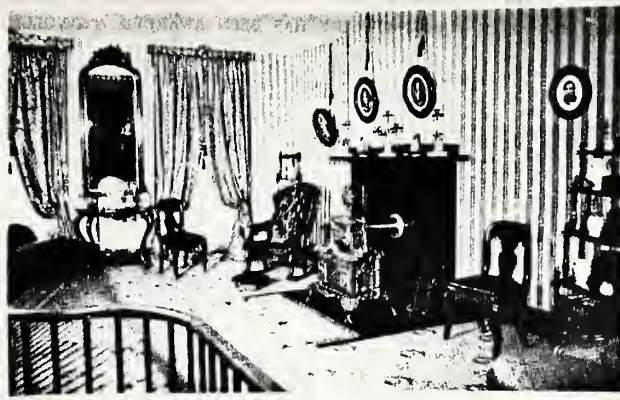
Abraham Lincoln's home on the northeast corner of Eighth and Jackson streets is the shrine most intimately associated with his life in Springfield. It is the only home he ever owned and to it he brought his wife and infant son, Robert Todd, after the first two years of their married life had been spent at boarding houses and at the Globe Tavern, where board and room were \$4.00 a week.

Abraham Lincoln purchased the house and lot for \$1,500 on May 2, 1844 from the Rev. Charles Dresser, the Episcopal rector who had married him and Mary Todd on Nov. 4, 1842. The house is the original structure, standing on the same location as when the Lincolns lived in it. However, the Lincolns did make some changes while they lived here. Originally it was a cottage of one and one-half stories, built in 1839 on a lot 50 x 152 feet. The wall and fence at the front were built in 1850. Lincoln wrote to Nathaniel Hay, local brick maker on June 11, and ordered "brick of suitable quality and sufficient number . . . to build a front fence on a brick foundation."

Five years later a similar fence was continued about one-fourth the length of the lot on Jackson Street with a high board fence running to the carriage house. Mrs. Lincoln in 1856, at a cost of \$1,300, had the house made a full two stories. The front staircase was a part of the 1839 structure and led to the two half-story upstairs rooms.

The house is made of native hard woods and white pine; the framework and the floors are oak; the laths are hand-split hickory; the doors, door frames, and weatherboarding are pine grained to resemble walnut. The original shingles were hand-split white oak. Much of the construction was with wooden pegs plus the use of handmade nails.

The Lincolns made this their home from May, 1844 to February, 1861, except for the first part of Lincoln's term in Congress, when it was rented to Cornelius Ludlum for \$90 for a year beginning Nov. 1, 1847. Mrs. Lincoln and the two little boys, Robert and Edward, spent part of the time in Washington with Mr. Lincoln and the remainder at her father's home in Lexington, Kentucky. Three of the Lincolns' sons were born in this house, Edward Baker, "Eddie" (1846-1850), William Wallace, "Willie" (1850-1862) and Thomas, "Tad" (1853-1871), and "Eddie" died here.



THE FRONT PARLOR. Photo taken 1955



ORIGINAL DINING ROOM TABLE C. 1940

From Jim Woodruff Collection

Lincoln retained ownership and rented the house to Lucian Tilton, head of the Great Western railroad (now the N and W) for \$350 a year. The Tiltons continued to live in the house after Lincoln's assassination until they moved to Chicago in 1869. From then until 1880 the house was occupied by George H. Harlow, who was private secretary to Gov. Richard J. Oglesby, city editor of the *Illinois State Journal*, and Secretary of State for two terms. For the next three years Dr. Gustav Wendlandt, physician and later editor of a German-language newspaper, lived here.

Robert Otto LeMasters, 71, formerly of Pawnee and Rochester, died at 11:26 p.m. Tuesday in Mesa, AZ.

He was born November 11, 1916 in Indianapolis, IN, the son of Walter and Olie May Monte LeMasters. He married the former Amelia Renaldo.

Mr. LeMasters had resided in Mesa since 1968. He was a retired grain farmer and a member of the Pawnee United Methodist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Amelia, of Mesa.

Services were at 10:30 A.M. Monday at Roarick-Davis Memorial Home in Pawnee, with the Rev. Robert Chapman officiating. Burial was in Horse Creek Cemetery in Pawnee.

NOTICE OF ADDRESS CHANGE UNDER ASSUMED NAME ACT STATE OF ILLINOIS, County of Sangamon)

TO WHO IT MAY CONCERN: Notice is hereby given of change of address of SUBURBAN PUBLICATIONS which filed an Ownership of Business Certificate in the Office of County Clerk, Sangamon County, State of Illinois, stating that John R. Armstrong is transacting business under the fictitious name of SUBURBAN PUBLICATIONS in Sangamon County, State of Illinois, and that John R. Armstrong is the sole owner, and that the principal place of business is P.O. Box 12053, Springfield, Illinois 62771. John R. Armstrong

In 1883 Osborn H. Oldroyd rented the home and made it a museum for his extensive collection of Civil War relics and Lincoln mementoes. Oldroyd was instrumental in persuading Robert Todd Lincoln to give the property to the State of Illinois and this was done in a deed recorded July 29, 1887. Oldroyd was then named the first custodian, a position he held until 1893 when he moved his collection to Washington, D. C. and later sold it to the federal government.

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The Springfield Herald
Vol. 6. No 6

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1988



LINCOLN'S MAIN BEDROOM



LINCOLN'S KITCHEN



THE GUEST BEDROOM. Toys date from 1850's.

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ABRAHAM LINCOLN - photograph by Anthony Berger, February 9, 1864

President Lincoln and his ten-year-old son Tad are looking at a picture album. This is the only close-up photograph of Lincoln that shows him wearing spectacles.



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To get more juice from oranges, let the fruit soak in cold water for a while before squeezing.

DAR GOOD CITIZENS

Sgt. Caleb Hopkins Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution, will hold its annual Good Citizens Luncheon Saturday at the Heritage House restaurant.

The Chapter will honor graduating seniors from several highschools who have been voted by their peers and teachers to receive the DAR Good Citizen Award.

Seniors from Griffin-Sacred Heart, Ursuline, Chandlerville and Virginia High Schools, with their mothers, will be the program "Fort de Chartres: Where French and English Became American" will be presented by Mrs. F. North Ross, Honorary Regent of the Chapter.

NEED A LOG CABIN BUTTON? CAROLYN MOORE HAS THEM - JUST A DOLLAR - AT HER GIFT SHOP.

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The State Journal Register
Feb. 27, 1968

Life-size Lincoln statue set for home site

by Doug Pokorski

There are life-size statues of Abraham Lincoln scattered all over the Springfield area, but the one place you won't find one is at the site most closely associated with Lincoln — his home.

That oversight is set to be remedied June 16, when a life-size bronze figure of Lincoln is scheduled to be dedicated at the Lincoln Home Visitors Center.

The dedication will coincide with the official reopening of the home, which has been closed for extensive renovations since early last year.

The statue is being donated to the National Park Service, which owns the site, by the People's Tribute to Lincoln Inc., a not-for-profit group based in St. Charles, Mo.

"The committee approached us looking for a place to put (the statue)," said Dick Lusardi, director of maintenance at Lincoln's Home. "We don't have anything commemorative. Nobody ever approached us about it before. We think it is an appropriate tribute to Lincoln."

The statue, "The Prairie Lawyer," will be a bronze enlargement of a 20-inch wooden original carved by John Frank Sr., also of St. Charles.

Frank, 80, has been sculpting Lincoln since he was 16, when he carved his first bust from a bar of Camay soap. His work has been displayed at sites including the home, New Salem State Historic Site and the Gettysburg Battlefield National Park.

Another Frank statue, "Lincoln the Postmaster," is on display at the main Springfield post office, 2105 E. Cook St.

Frank has said "The Prairie

Lawyer" is a particularly appropriate statue for Lincoln's Home.

"This is the Lincoln who lived in the house in Springfield and, as a young lawyer, read the Eighth Judicial Circuit," he said.

"Imagine Lincoln has just been driving down the road in his buggy and stopped to talk. He's gone over to the rail fence where a man is working in the field. Something was said, and Lincoln has just replied, 'Well now, that reminds me of a story.' You can tell by his relaxed manner that it's not going to be a sad story."

Arlene Williams Hogue of the People's Tribute said the group needs to raise \$100,000 to complete the casting of the life-size statue. About \$30,000 has been raised since fund raising began about a year ago.

None of the People's Tribute committee draw a salary from the organization, and fund-raising expenses are being kept to a minimum, she said, so almost all the money will go toward casting the statue.

"We have concentrated our fund raising in the sculptor's hometown to date," Hogue said. "We are now moving into Illinois and the Springfield area."

She said fund-raising events are planned here, but no dates have been set.

Hogue, former director of sales for the Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau, said she became interested in Frank's work when he exhibited at the first LincolnFest.

Jim O'Toole, former site superintendent at Lincoln's Home, also noticed Frank's work then, she said.

"O'Toole took a liking to Frank," she said. "We kicked around the idea that there's not a

statue of Lincoln at the home, and that it's probably a good idea to have one."

"The Prairie Lawyer" will be cast by the Del Ray Bronze foundry in Houston. Work has already begun on the wax enlargement that will be used to create the mold.

"The company is two months ahead of schedule on the casting, and it will definitely be ready by June 16," says George Painter. Painter is historian at the home and president of the Lincoln Group of Illinois, which is supporting efforts to erect the statue here.

Painter said foundry workers are so concerned that the statue be exactly life-size that he had a call Friday asking for Lincoln's hat size. Painter contacted the Smithsonian Institution, which is measuring the hat Lincoln wore on the night he was assassinated.

A limited edition of 75 bronze reproductions of the 20-inch original sculpture already has been cast. Eight to 10 of the smaller statues — which normally sell for \$2,000 apiece — have been set aside for the People's Tribute. They will be given to individuals or groups who donate \$10,000 or more to the project.

Lusardi said the finished statue will stand at the southwest side of the Visitors Center, recessed into the hillside and facing Seventh Street.

Because the goal of the Park Service is to make the home site look as much as possible as it did in Lincoln's day, the statue will not be visible from the home.

"It is appropriate to put the statue in front of the Visitors Center," Lusardi said. "In effect, he will be greeting visitors to the site."



This is a 20-inch wooden original of "The Prairie Lawyer" carved by John Frank Sr. A life-size bronze sculpture is scheduled to be dedicated June 16 at the Lincoln Home Visitors Center.

Wed. March 2, 1988



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WEEKEND IN SPRINGFIELD



A Double Capital City

A historical heritage lingers in this midwestern hometown of one of our most distinguished presidents.

By Dixie Franklin

Springfield, Ill., is a wistful, vibrant, festive city—holding steadfast to the past while it reaches for the future. I went looking for the hometown of our sixteenth president, and I was not disappointed in the smorgasbord of entertainment and attractions I found, with Abraham Lincoln as the centerpiece.

This double capital city skillfully mixes history with today. The somber **Lincoln Tomb** contrasts with the **Old State Capitol Plaza**. Banks of flowers provide splashes of color for parks, street corners and public buildings.

Even with modern architecture of multi-storied buildings and the state capitol standing 405 feet tall to the tip of the flagstaff, Springfield is still very much Lincoln. Tours of the old and new state capitols provide a good introduction to this heritage. The tours, which are more than lessons in history and state government, hold interest for all ages.

Enter the World of Lincoln

Climb the steps of the **Old State Capitol** (Greek Revival architecture), push open the heavy wooden doors, and enter the world as Lincoln knew it. Interpreters lead tours through the restored capitol, which is furnished with authentic pieces from the Lincoln era.

Follow the well-worn wooden staircase to the second-floor House chambers, where a life-size statue of Stephen A. Douglas stands solemn guard at the door. Return on Saturday night for the John Ahart play, *Portrait of a Prairie Capitol*. Reservations are required.

Citizens of Springfield love their old capitol. This is where Lincoln served in the House of Representatives; studied in the library; and as a practicing attorney pleaded 243 cases before the Supreme Court. He delivered numerous speeches there, including his 1856 *House Divided* speech. Lincoln also left from here for Washington

and the presidency. And on May 3, 1865, the slain Lincoln lay in state in these chambers as mourners solemnly passed by throughout the long night. However, the old capitol is more than history. Its halls also ring with concerts, receptions, dramas and candlelight tours.

Upon leaving the old capitol, pause on the front veranda and imagine Springfield as it was in Lincoln's day. Stroll among the colorful booths of local artists and crafters set up along the flower-decked plaza, especially during the **Old Capitol Art Fair** the third weekend of May.

Other Attractions Honoring Lincoln

Adjacent to the square is an unusual McDonald's restaurant. Along with its "golden arches" fare, several rooms are dedicated to the memory of the Long Nine, Lincoln's contemporaries who formed legends. Through paintings, wooden dioramas and a bronze Lincoln mask, the

Long Nine Museum tells the story of Lincoln and eight fellow legislators from Sangamon County who successfully pushed efforts to move the state capital from Vandalia to Springfield in 1837. The nine men were so called because of their height, a combined 54 feet—unusual for a time when the average American man was 5 feet 7 inches tall.

Walk around the corner to Sixth and Adams streets for a tour of the restored **Lincoln-Herndon law offices** where Lincoln practiced for almost 10 years, first with Stephen T. Logan and later with William Herndon. I was struck by its simplicity, with austere furnishings and bare wooden floors, which creaked underfoot.

A preservation project has kept the **Lincoln Home** closed in recent months, but restoration is expected to be completed in

which represent the 37 states that comprised the Union at the time of the tomb's original construction.

Find time to tour nearby **New Salem State Historic Site**, a restored village 20 miles northwest of Springfield, where Lincoln spent six formative years of early manhood. The pioneer village of 23 cabins includes a museum, blacksmith shop—where children stand transfixed as the blacksmith squeezes the bellows at the forge—a tavern, school, and an ox-drawn wagon with visitors hitching rides. Below the village, for a dollar you can tour the muddy Sangamon River aboard the riverboat *Talisman* for a 45-minute ride. The summer stock **Great American People Show** performs at 8 p.m. nightly, except Mondays (adults, \$6; student or seniors, \$5; family, \$17.50).

South Fifth St. is reminiscent of the sensitive *Prairie Troubadour*, with original furnishings, art and writings. It is registered as a national historic landmark.

Edwards Place at 700 North Fourth St. is Springfield's oldest house still standing on its original grounds. The 15-room mansion, with its Corinthian columns, is topped with a large cupola. Inside, the home has retained much of its elegance, which is enhanced by original furnishings as well as period furnishings from other area homes. Edwards Place is also the home of the **Springfield Art Association**. Galleries feature American, Indian and Oriental art and artifacts. Children enjoy the antique toys and 1800s iron fire pumps.

Enjoy Shopping, Dining and Nature

For a change of pace, drive through **Washington Park** with its gardens and conservatory. Find a park bench or lounge on the grassy slopes to enjoy the carillon, with concerts every summer weekend. The carillon is one of the world's largest, with 66 cast bronze bells chiming from the 12-story tower. This is the site of the nation's only **International Carillon Festival** held each June. Daily tours of the three observation decks and carillonist's cabin are offered.

Lincoln Memorial Garden and Nature Center, 11 miles from downtown Springfield, affords visitors the opportunity to sample the Illinois landscape as Lincoln knew it. Stroll along five miles of restful trails on the shores of Lake Springfield. Pick up a souvenir for yourself or a friend at the nature center and gift shop.

Springfield affords unique shopping opportunities as well, such as the **Union Station Depot** with its 13 specialty shops and two restaurants. **Vinegar Hill Mall**, a restored cavernous building with the charm still intact, features restaurants and shops, including antiques. Antiques are a good buy in Springfield, with numerous interesting shops. However, visit the shops early in the week because many are closed on Sundays.

Horse-drawn carriages clatter along the downtown streets offering rides and tours throughout the tourist season. This is a leisurely way to see the city and experience the street scene.

Springfield's many fine restaurants were delightful gourmet surprises. And Springfield's special horseshoe sandwich is a must! It is derived from the horseshoe shape of ham encircled with french fries to represent the nails, laid on a sizzling platter to represent the hot anvil, all topped with a zesty cheese sauce. Horseshoes are available at numerous Springfield restaurants.

For admission hours, prices (many attractions are free), tours, accommodations and other information, contact the **Springfield Convention & Visitors Bureau**, 624 East Adams/H&A, Springfield, IL 62701; then visit your nearest AAA office listed on page 2A (or in the *AAA Travel Agency* ad) for reservations.

You can also receive free travel information by using the *H&A Travel Guide* found on page 56. H&A

No visit to Springfield would be complete without an emotional tour through the solemn Lincoln Tomb.



time for the tourist season. The formal reopening is scheduled for June 16, 1988. Visitors can once again file through the two-story home where the Lincolns lived for 17 years. Lincoln came to Springfield as a young lawyer. Three sons were born here and one died. And when Lincoln bade farewell, it was as president of the United States. Also tour the neighborhood and the visitors' center.

Solemn Scenes at Lincoln's Tomb

Visiting the Lincoln Tomb is an emotional experience for most guests. Guided tours through the tomb are solemn and thought-provoking, interrupted only by bronze statuary and plaques of some of Lincoln's quotes.

Outside, four staircases lead to the terrace and more bronze statuary groupings, which represent the four fighting forces of the Civil War: infantry, artillery, cavalry and navy. A statue of Lincoln surveys all below him from atop a granite pedestal. Around the tomb is a procession of shields,

The tall dome of Illinois' sixth state capitol back in Springfield can be seen for miles across the cornfields and prairie, a smooth transition from the Lincoln era. Capitol grounds are dotted with beds of flowers, fountains and statuary.

Generous use of granite, marble, bronze, stained glass and murals lends a simple prairie majesty to the imposing limestone capitol completed in 1888. Especially impressive are the lighting and chandeliers.

Other Lincoln attractions in Springfield include the **Lincoln Depot** and the **Lincoln Family Pew** at the First Presbyterian Church.

Visit These Historic Homes

Interesting home tours include the **Dana-Thomas House** at 301 E. Lawrence Ave., considered the best preserved and most complete of Frank Lloyd Wright's early "prairie" houses. Many of the original furnishings designed by Wright exclusively for the Springfield house are there.

The home of poet Vachel Lindsay at 603

Vandals mar buildings near Lincoln home

By Margaret Sheridan

The neon-colored graffiti is gone, but what remains after vandals defaced two buildings on the Lincoln Home national historic site in Springfield is sadness.

"I've had 30 calls today from citizens about the incident," Lawrence Blake, chief of visitor services at the site, said Wednesday. "We feel badly."

Vandals spray-painted two buildings and a fence with racial slurs and obscenities, causing an estimated \$500 in damage. Lincoln's former home was unscathed, but the fence around the house was defaced.

The graffiti was discovered Tuesday morning by a member of the site's maintenance crew and was cleaned up within five hours.

Springfield police and the FBI are investigating the crime, but they have no suspects yet.

A private citizens program, Crimestoppers, announced Wednesday that it will offer up to a \$1,000 cash reward for tips leading to the crime, said officer Neil Williamson, spokesman for the Springfield Police Department.

It was a tip from a citizen last year that led to the arrest and conviction of five teenagers and an adult who spray-painted Lincoln's Tomb.

The Lincoln home site contains 18 original structures dating back to 1860.

"Unlike the Lincoln Memorial in Washington where you sense Lincoln was a god surrounded by all that marble, this site shows Lincoln the father, the family man, the neighbor," Blake said.

"That's why this [vandalism] hurts more. It's like a personal affront."

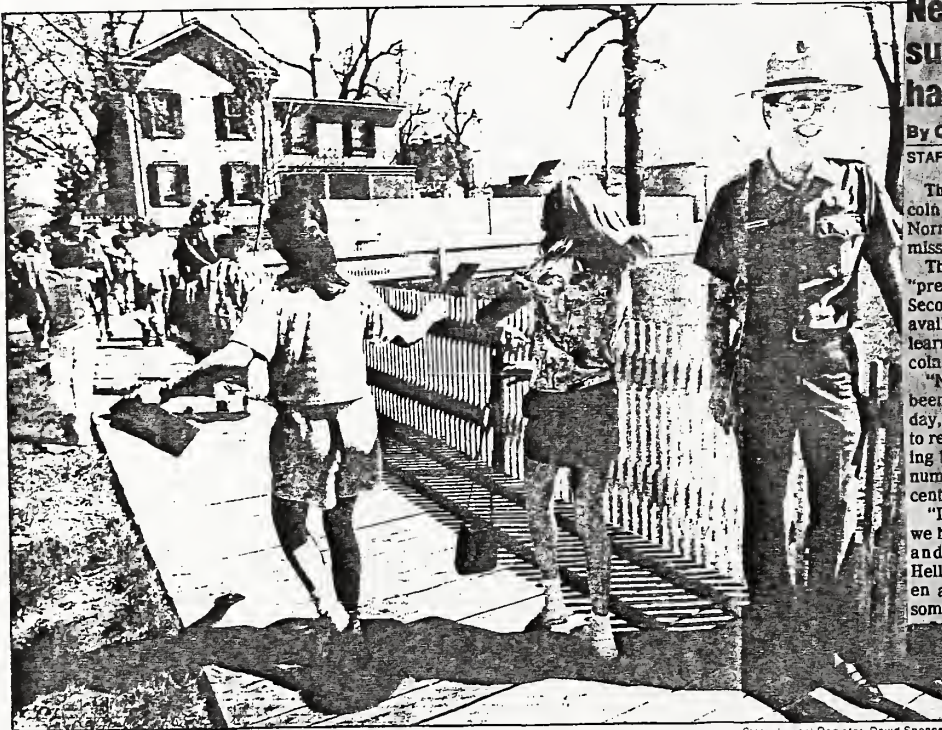
The State Journal-Register

Springfield, Illinois

Wednesday, April 25, 1990

City edition

35 cents



New in the neighborhood

Norman Hellmers, the new superintendent at the Lincoln Home National Historic Site, stands by a fence as a tour group heads for

the home. Hellmers, an 18-year veteran of the National Park Service, started work in Springfield on Tuesday. Story on page 2.

New Lincoln Home superintendent has two-fold goal

By CHRIS GREEN
STAFF WRITER

The new superintendent of the Lincoln Home National Historic Site, Norman Hellmers, says he sees his mission as two-fold.

The first priority, he said, is to "preserve the resources in the park." Second is to "make those resources available to the public to help them learn about the life of Abraham Lincoln."

"Now that the Lincoln Home has been restored," Hellmers said Tuesday, his first day on the job, "we want to restore and stabilize the surrounding houses, a project that will last a number of years — well into the next century."

"It's not just a matter of money, but we have to do it (archeological work and restoration) carefully," Hellmers said. "Even if we were given all the money in the world, it's something that will take time."

Some of the houses eventually will be opened to the public, he said, and some will be used as offices, such as the Shurt House, 525 S. Eighth St., which is used as offices by U.S. Rep. Dick Durbin, D-Springfield.

Hellmers believes his more immediate challenge will be to accommodate the growing number of tourists attracted to the site each year.

Park officials expect more than 600,000 tourists this year and look for that number to increase yearly.

"We can accomplish the job right now with the funding and staff that we have," Hellmers said, "but an increasing number of people coming through the site will make it rather difficult."

Hellmers, an 18-year veteran of the National Park Service, has a long association with sites connected to Abraham Lincoln.

He began his career with the park service as an interpreter at Gettysburg National Military Park in Pennsylvania. For the past eight years, he has been site superintendent of the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, near Lincoln City, Ind.

The boyhood memorial is a re-creation of the farm where Lincoln lived from age 7 to 21.

"Not too many people realized Lincoln spent 14 years of his life in Indiana," Hellmers said.

Because Lincoln was born in Kentucky, spent much of his youth in Indiana, and then became prominent in Illinois, Hellmers said the whole Midwest can lay claim to Lincoln.

Prior to his work in Indiana, Hellmers served at the George Washington Memorial Parkway, in Virginia and Maryland; at Shenandoah National Park in Virginia; and at Grand Portage National Monument in Minnesota.

Hellmers succeeds Gentry Davis at the Lincoln Home Historic Site. Davis was recently promoted to site superintendent at National Capital Parks East in Washington, D.C.

State Journal-Register David Spencer

NEWS FROM THE NORTH

From News-Press wire services

ILLINOIS

LEMONT — Crystal Lake South High School upset defending champion, the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy, to triumph in the state Science Bowl at Argonne National Laboratory.

With a decisive 100 to 44 victory, Crystal Lake South grabbed the title against 42 other high school teams from across the state.

CHICAGO — Lotto players in Wednesday's drawing will be shooting for a grand prize of \$25 million, the Illinois State Lottery announced Sunday.

The jackpot was increased by \$4 million after no one matched all six numbers in Saturday's drawing, said Illinois Lottery Director Desiree Glapion Rogers.

INDIANA

COLUMBUS — A city most prominent as an industrial center will also grab the Midwest's agriculture spotlight next year when Columbus hosts the 1992 Farm Progress Show.

The nation's largest outdoor farm exposition, scheduled for Sept. 29-Oct. 1, 1992, is expected to attract 250,000 to 300,000 people to the southern Indiana city that's home to two Fortune 500 companies, Cummins Engine Co. and Arvin Inc.

storm that knocked out power to as many as 300,000 homes in New York state.

About 28,000 homes in western and northern New York were still without heat and lights Sunday, a week after the ice storm that brought tree limbs, utility poles and electric lines crashing to the ground in a beautiful but treacherous display of nature's power.

NEW YORK — British publisher Robert Maxwell flew back to the United States on Sunday with plans to offer the unions striking the Daily News a new package that would enable him to purchase the faltering tabloid.

But even before he arrived, union leaders were encouraged that he apparently was dropping some of the language they objected to on Saturday.

ALBANY — Gov. Mario Cuomo, in his toughest attack yet on proposals to raise taxes to avoid his proposed budget cuts, said Sunday that such a move would be "the most reckless fiscal act ever done in the name of liberalism."

The governor also said it was time for legislative leaders to make public their proposed alternatives to his budget plan, if they had any.

NEW YORK — Six members of the Vietnamese gang Born To Kill and four girlfriends were arrested early Saturday in a gang hideout in

NORTHERN LITES

A lighter side of news from the North.



SPRINGFIELD, III. — LINCOLN EXPERT: When renovators were looking to unlock the secrets of Abraham Lincoln's home, they turned to J. Ruth Ketchum. Now, the woman who worked at the home for 20 years is being honored for her help.

Ketchum, 71, is nicknamed the "First Lady of the Lincoln Home" in the introduction of a 48-page photographic essay of the 1987-88 renovation of the home.

"This is the lady who taught me everything about Lincoln's home and about the Lincolns, even the things we weren't supposed to know," said Judith Winkelmann, who wrote the introduction and text for "Restoring Mr. Lincoln's Home."

Staff of the National Park Service, which owns and operates the home, held a reception last week for Ketchum at the home's Visitors Center. Ketchum was presented with a copy of the new book, which was decorated with a piece of the red ribbon that had been snipped at the reopening of the home when the renovations were complete in June 1988.

"I'm honored, all right," Ketchum said. "I thought you had to be dead to have a book dedicated to you."

Ketchum came to the home in about 1964, when the site was owned by the state of Illinois. The job came at an opportune time. Her husband was seriously ill and, with four children to support, she was working as a cook in a school cafeteria when the wife of her precinct committeeman asked if she would like to work at the home.

Ketchum was the only state employee the National Park Service kept on in a permanent position when it took over the home in 1972. Although she worked primarily as an interpreter, she also did a number of other jobs during the years, including night guard duty and keeping the payroll.

Lincoln home's 'first lady' logs book dedication

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — When renovators were looking to unlock the secrets of Abraham Lincoln's home, they turned to J. Ruth Ketchum. Now, the woman who worked at the home for 20 years is being honored for her help.

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"I said sure, and she said, 'Be there tomorrow at 10 a.m.,'" Ketchum said.

"When I got there, a man walked in very dramatically and said, 'You've got the job. Here's what you do.'"

Ketchum was the only state employee the National Park Service kept on in a permanent position when it took over the home in 1972. Although she worked primarily as an interpreter, she also did a number of other jobs over the years, including night guard duty and keeping the payroll.

After having been at the home for quite a few years, she said, "I had to break in everybody who came around. They thought that the person who had been there the longest must know the most."

Over the years, she said, a number of celebrated visitors came to the home, including two presidents, Gov. Adlai Stevenson, Mr. and

Mrs. Muhammed Ali and Coretta Scott King, wife of the late Martin Luther King Jr.

Ketchum said that when Coretta King and her party first arrived at the home, she didn't realize she was dealing with celebrities. But that didn't really matter, she said.

"You treat everybody nice and you don't get in trouble."

Winkelmann remembered that when Ketchum retired, she made a reference to the annual stampede of youngsters. "She said, 'I'm ready to retire. It's been 19 years and 20 Mays,'" Winkelmann said.

Winkelmann said "Restoring Mr. Lincoln's Home," which sells for \$6.95, is available at the bookstore in the home's Visitors Center. She said it probably will be available at other area bookstores soon.

Lure — Lincoln

CHILDREN USUALLY FORM their first impressions of Abraham Lincoln in grade school. In some of them, it sparks a fire that burns for a lifetime.

Lincoln, whose birthday is Wednesday, is the most intensely studied president in the nation's history. By now, you may think there is nothing left to learn about the man. But there is more.

Even before the current proposal for a center for research and study of Lincoln to be located in Springfield, the city was home to some

of the most renowned Lincoln scholars in the country. And, on the 51st floor of Chicago's John Hancock building, is a man generally regarded to be one of the major buyers and sellers of Lincoln artifacts.

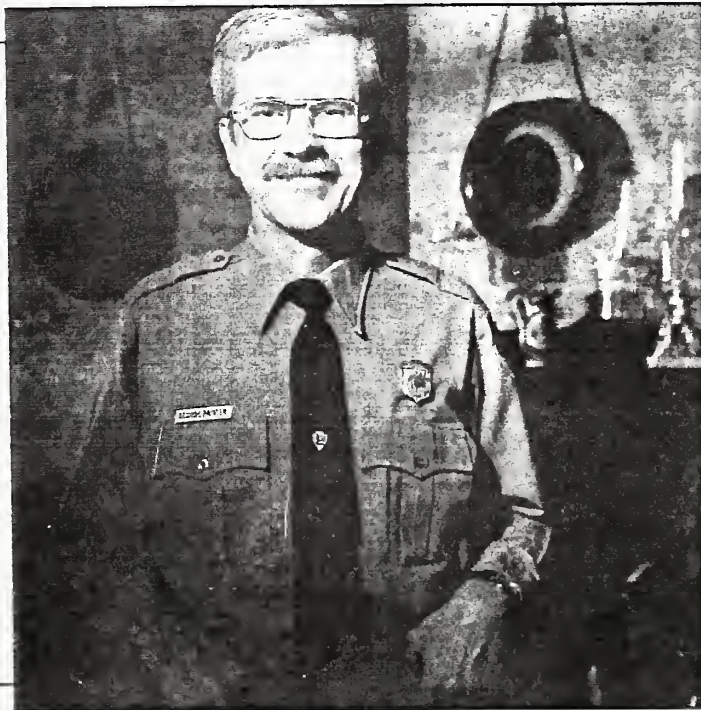
The people who study Lincoln are a diverse group. But they share a common flame — uncovering more information about Lincoln. Some of them have been hooked on Lincoln since they were kids. Others discovered Lincoln later in life.

Here are five Illinoisans who've caught the fire.

• GEORGE PAINTER •

HISTORIAN OF LINCOLN HOME National Historic site in Springfield in 1977; founded the Lincoln Collection in 1986; past president, Sangamon Valley Historical Society; founding president of Lincoln Group of Illinois, 1987; published a number of articles including, "17 Years at Eighth and Jackson: The Lincoln Years in Springfield, Ill."; coordinator of activities for the local celebration of Lincoln's birthday.

Childhood memory of Lincoln: "When I was a boy, there was a movie on television on Abraham Lincoln, 'Abe Lincoln in Illinois' with Raymond Massey playing Lincoln. What struck me about Lincoln in the movie was that he had a wrestling match. That struck me as being unusual and provocative that a famous president had been a wrestler at one point in his life. That made a deep impression on me as a child. That's probably unusual, for somebody to get involved with Lincoln because of the cinematic portrayal of a wrestling match."



THE SEVENTH ANNUAL LINCOLN COLLOQUIUM

by George L. Painter, Historian
Lincoln Home National Historic Site

The public is cordially invited to attend the Seventh Annual Lincoln Colloquium, in which prominent scholars will present their insights concerning Abraham Lincoln. Since its inception during 1986, the Colloquium has grown into one of the more significant national events in the field of Lincoln scholarship.

The Seventh Annual Lincoln Colloquium will be held on Saturday, October 24, 1992, at Sangamon State University in Springfield, Illinois.

The theme of this year's conference is "Abraham Lincoln and the Political Process." Speakers will include Cullom Davis, Professor of History at Sangamon State University and Editor of the Lincoln Legal Papers; Rodney O. Davis, Professor of History at Knox College; Roger A. Fischer, Professor of History at the University of Minnesota - Duluth; William E. Gienapp, Professor of History at Harvard University; and John Y. Simon, Professor of History at Southern Illinois University.

Each year, the papers presented at the Colloquium are published in an illustrated booklet which has been widely praised for its attractive appearance and scholarly content. Following the event, registrants will receive a copy of the booklet through the mail.

On October 24, registration for the conference will begin at 11:00 a.m.; the registration table will be located just inside the ground floor entrance of Sangamon State University's Public Affairs Center. The program will commence at 11:30 a.m. and conclude at approximately 5:00 p.m.; a luncheon is included.

The registration fee is \$25.00 per person. Checks should be made payable to Eastern National Park & Monument Association, with the word "Colloquium" written on the "Memo" line of the check. Because seating is limited, early registration is strongly recommended; registrations should be received by Monday, October 19. Please mail your registration fee to: Lincoln Colloquium, Lincoln Home National Historic Site, 413 South Eighth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701-1905.

In addition to Lincoln Home National Historic Site, other cosponsors of the Colloquium are Eastern National Park & Monument Association, the Sangamon County Historical Society, the Lincoln Group of Illinois, and Sangamon State University.

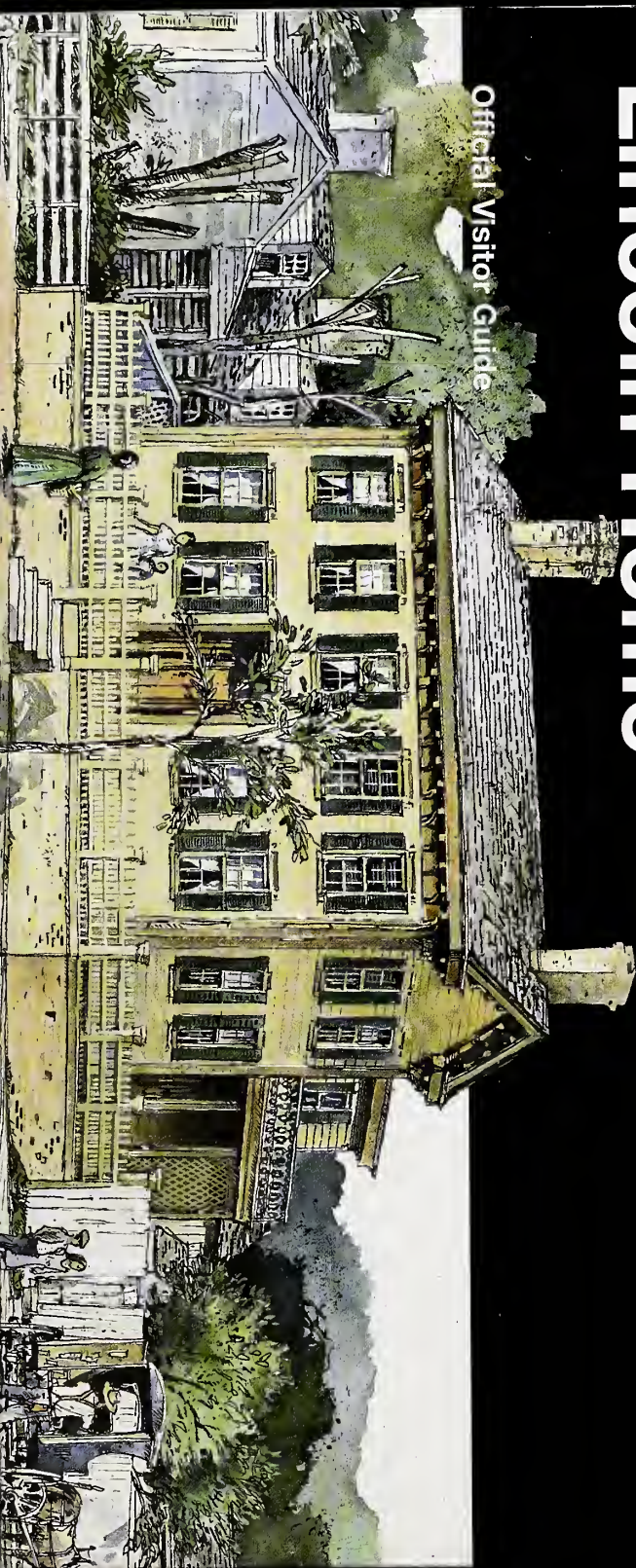
Anyone wishing to obtain further information regarding the Seventh Annual Lincoln Colloquium is welcome to call Lincoln Home National Historic Site at (217) 492-4150; please ask for Historian George Painter.

Once again, the public is cordially invited to this stimulating conference, which will enrich understanding of Abraham Lincoln and his place in history.



Lincoln Home

Official Visitor Guide

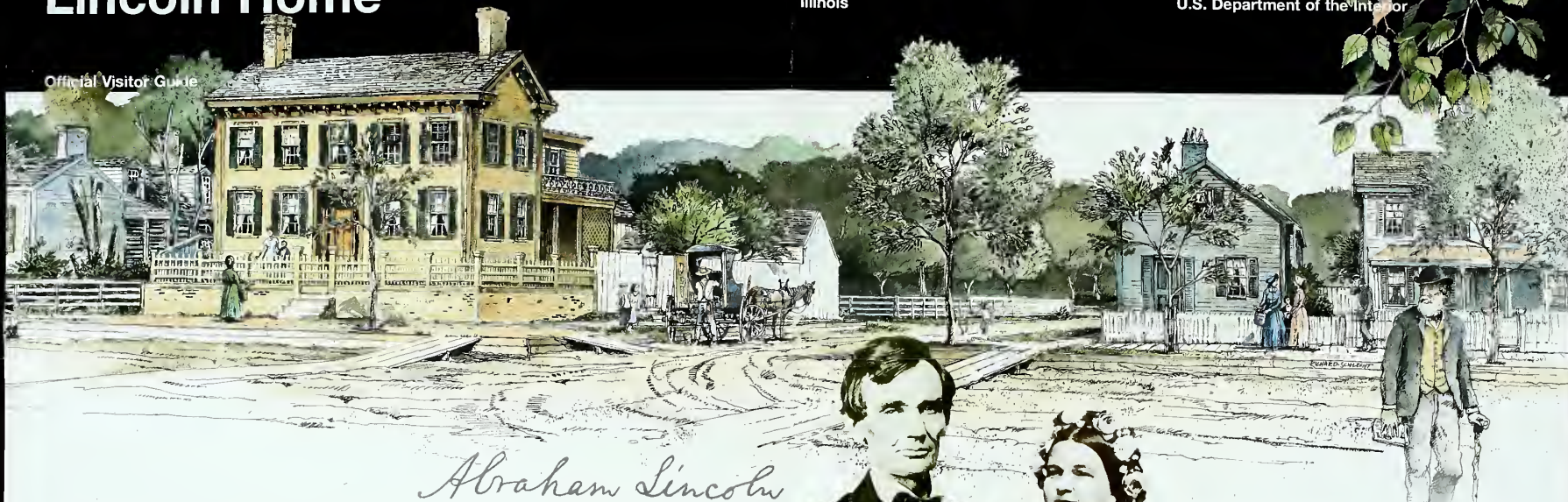


Lincoln Home

Official Visitor Guide

Lincoln Home National Historic Site
Illinois

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Abraham Lincoln

A self-taught lawyer with only one year of frontier schooling, Abraham Lincoln rode his horse into Springfield in 1837 with all his belongings in two saddlebags. Mary Todd, who arrived two years later, was well educated and from a prominent Kentucky family. Despite their contrasting backgrounds, they were wed on November 4, 1842. In 1844 the young couple bought a small cottage at the corner of Eighth and Jackson streets. Here, three of their four children were born, and one died. While living in this house Lincoln enjoyed great success as a lawyer and was considered one of the state's best courtroom attorneys. His legal practice regularly took Lincoln away from Springfield up to three months at a

time in spring and fall. Their children certainly made the house a lively place, but Mary often felt alone without her husband present.

Lincoln began his political career by serving eight years in the Illinois House of Representatives between 1834 and 1842. He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1846, where he served one term. He was nominated in June 1858 to run for the U.S. Senate, a race he lost to Stephen Douglas. But this campaign, with its Lincoln-Douglas debates, set the stage for his ultimate achievement—election as 16th President of the United States.



Before leaving for Washington, D.C., the Lincolns rented out the house and sold most of their household furnishings, storing a few in anticipation of their return to Springfield. On February 11, 1861, the Lincolns left Springfield by train. Lincoln summed up his life in Springfield to the crowd gathered at the station with these simple words:

"... To this place, and the kindness of these people, I owe everything. ..."

Illustration: Richard Schlecht
Abraham Lincoln: Library of Congress
Mary Todd Lincoln: Windsor State Historical Library

At Home With the Lincolns



The Lincolns entertained their guests in the parlor, the most formal and public room. This was the setting for an important event in the future President's political life. The 1860 Republican Party convention, held in Chicago, chose Lincoln as its candidate for President. The next day a committee traveled to Springfield, and, in this room, they formally notified him of his nomination.



Mary largely devoted herself to managing the household and raising their children. Much of this domestic and private side of the home centered on the kitchen. Here Mary oversaw the activities that made this a well-run and inviting home, allowing Lincoln to devote his time and energy to the practice of law and politics.



Lincoln frequently worked at home on both his legal and political careers. Although the parents' bedroom suite was in the private part of the house and seen by few outside the family, Mary chose the furnishings with care to reflect the tastes of a prosperous family.



Robert Todd (1843-1926) Born at the Globe Tavern hotel, Robert was named for Mary's father. He was the only Lincoln son who grew to adulthood and had children of his own.

Illinois State Historical Library



Edward Baker (1846-1850) Nicknamed Eddie, he died at home five weeks short of his fourth birthday. No photograph of Eddie is known to exist.

The Lincoln Museum



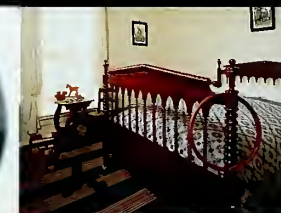
William Wallace (1850-1862) Loved by the Lincolns for his bright and inquisitive nature, Willie died in the White House, plunging the Lincolns into profound grief.

The Lincoln Museum



Thomas (1853-1871) Mary's "troublesome little sunshine" was nicknamed Tad by his father, who said he looked like a tadpole. Tad's death at 17 left his widowed mother desolate.

Quadrant Collection



By 1860 the oldest son Robert was away at school. The two younger, mischievous boys, Willie and Tad, shared this bedroom. Law partner William Herndon said that Lincoln "worshipped his children and what they worshipped; he loved what they loved and hated what they hated."

Fido, the family dog, was left with friends when the Lincolns moved to Washington, D.C. Illinois State Historical Library



Lincoln Home Through the Years

By May 1844 Abraham and Mary Lincoln needed more living space for their young family and decided to buy a home. They selected a Greek Revival-style cottage (drawing at right) at the corner of Eighth and Jackson streets owned by the Reverend Charles Dresser, who had married the Lincolns in 1842. Lincoln paid \$1,500 for the home the family would occupy for the next 17 years.

Over the years the Lincolns enlarged the house to accommodate their growing family. In 1846 they added a downstairs bedroom. Most dramatic were improvements in 1855-56, when the Lincolns expanded the story-and-a-half cottage to a full two-story house. Their new substantial home became the center of national attention during Lincoln's 1860 presi-



dential campaign. Only a simple nameplate on the front door reading "A. Lincoln" told the many visitors they had arrived at the home of the future President. After the election the Lincolns gave away or sold most of their furnishings and arranged to rent out the house to Lucian Tilton, president of the Great Western Railroad. The Tiltons regularly indulged the curious with tours of President Lincoln's home.

Following Lincoln's assassination in 1865, thousands of grieving citizens descended on Springfield. The house became a focus of mourning for a stunned nation.

The Lincolns sat for these photographs in 1846, their earliest known portraits.



Library of Congress



Library of Congress



Illinois State Historical Library

The Lincoln home (left) was draped for mourning as President Lincoln's body was returned to Springfield for burial in Oak Ridge Cemetery after he was assassinated in April 1865. Below is the nameplate that identified the Lincoln home during the family's residency.



On May 4, 1865, Lincoln's somber yet grand funeral procession passed in front of the Lincoln home on its way to Oak Ridge Cemetery. Eventually Lincoln's only surviving son Robert became sole owner of the Lincoln family home and maintained it as rental property. In 1887 he donated the home to the people of Illinois, who preserved it as a memorial to the martyred President for 85 years. The State of Illinois donated the home to the United States of America in 1972.

Today the home continues to draw visitors from around the world who are eager to learn about Abraham Lincoln—an international symbol of freedom and democracy.

9.5.10.21

The Springfield Lincoln Knew

Abraham Lincoln moved to Springfield in 1837, the year it became the state capital. A promising town of 2,500 people then, Springfield became the focal point of law, politics, and state government, yet livestock freely roamed its muddy streets. When Lincoln was elected to the presidency in 1860, the hogs were gone from its streets, and its population had more than tripled. In a new neighborhood at the edge of this bustling capital city, the Lincoln home was only a few blocks from Lincoln's law office at the town square, near the State House, courts, stores, and businesses. Their neighbors represented a cross-section of society, from laborers to elected officials. All in all, this was an excellent location for a promising young Springfield attorney and his growing family.

While no one knows exactly what Springfield was like in 1860, this carefully researched illustration suggests its appearance then. The Lincoln home was nestled in a heavily developed neighborhood. By the time the Lincolns left Springfield, there were houses all along Eighth Street, and the yards were filled with barns, sheds, privies, and gardens. Today the remaining houses and outbuildings offer only a glimpse of what this lively neighborhood was like when the Lincolns lived here.



Illustration: Richard Schickel

Information, Tours and Tickets

Visiting the Site
The site is open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., year-round, with extended hours in spring, summer, and fall. It is closed on Thanksgiving day, December 25, and January 1.

Touring and Ticket Information
To tour the Lincoln Home, begin at the visitor center at 426 South Seventh Street. Parking is available for a fee on Seventh Street south of the visitor center. Free tour tickets for a specific tour time are provided; first-come, first-served. Arrive early

in the day to get tickets to avoid long waits for tours. No pets are permitted in the Lincoln Home.

For information about group tours of both the Lincoln Home and other Springfield sites, call the Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau, 800-545-7300.

The visitor center offers information, exhibits, orientation films, restrooms, and a bookstore. You may walk through the historic neighborhood and view exhibits in two of the houses.

Access
The visitor center, exhibits, and first floor of the Lincoln Home are accessible. Call 217-492-4241 before your visit for more accessibility information or a sign-language interpreter.

Safety
Visitors will encounter conditions that were part of everyday, nineteenth-century life. Irregular boardwalks, surfaces with loose stones, and narrow and steep staircases are part of the historic scene. Please watch your step to make your visit a safe one.

For More Information
Contact Superintendent, Lincoln Home National Historic Site, 413 South Eighth Street, Springfield, IL 62701-1905; www.nps.gov/llho; or 217-492-4241.

Lincoln Home National Historic Site is part of the National Park System, one of more than 370 parks that are important examples of our nation's natural and cultural heritage.

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Nearby Lincoln Sites

Related Sites
Several state historic sites are within walking distance or a short drive of the Lincoln Home: the Old State Capitol, Lincoln-Herndon Law

Offices, Lincoln's Tomb, and Lincoln's New Salem. Within walking distance, too, is the Lincoln Depot, owned by The State Journal-Register. For information on these

and other attractions, contact the Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau at 800-545-7300.



Lincoln's New Salem



Lincoln-Herndon Law Offices



Old State Capitol



Lincoln Depot

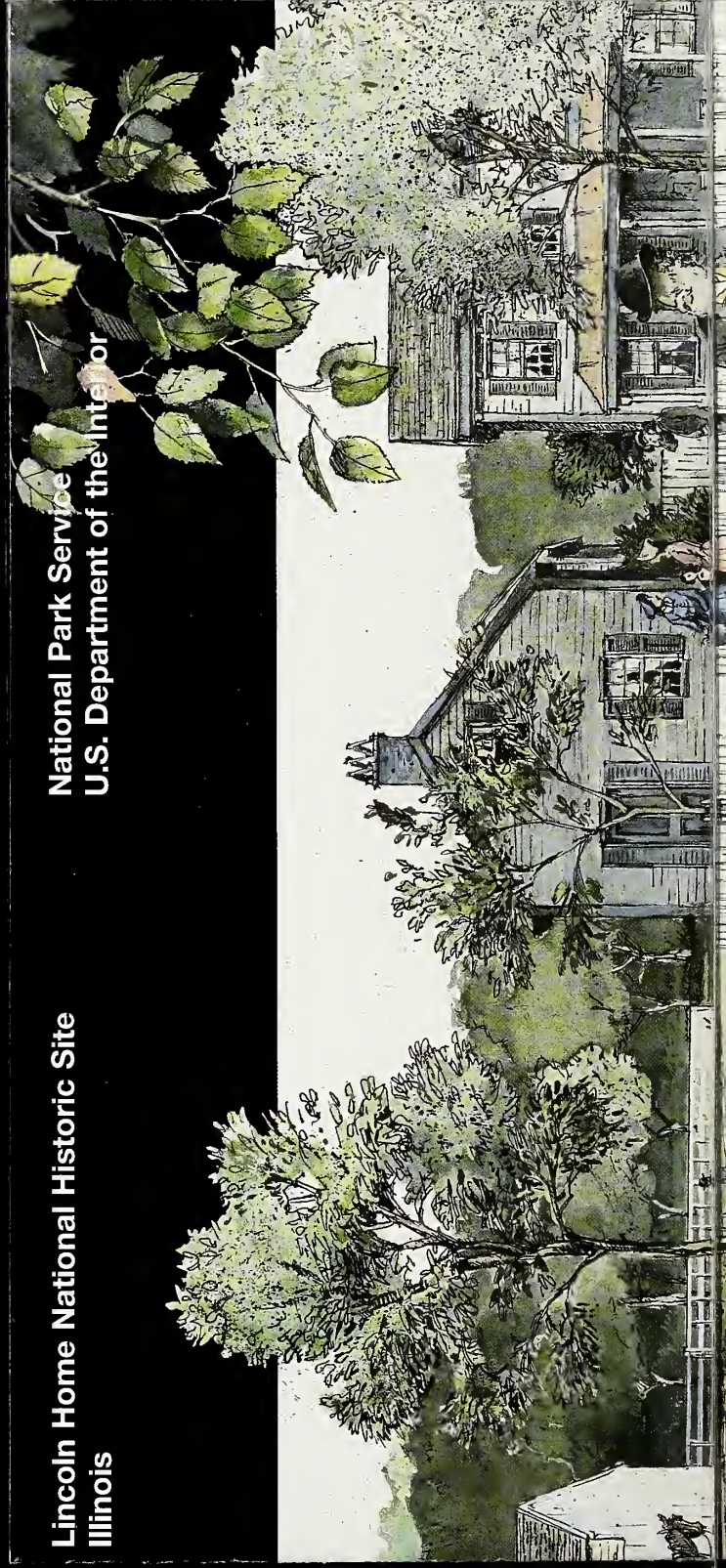


Lincoln Tomb

"Here I have lived a quarter of a century, and have passed from a young to an old man. Here my children have been born, and one is buried. I now leave, not knowing when, or whether ever, I may return. . . ." —A. Lincoln, Farewell Address, 1861

Lincoln Home National Historic Site
Illinois

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

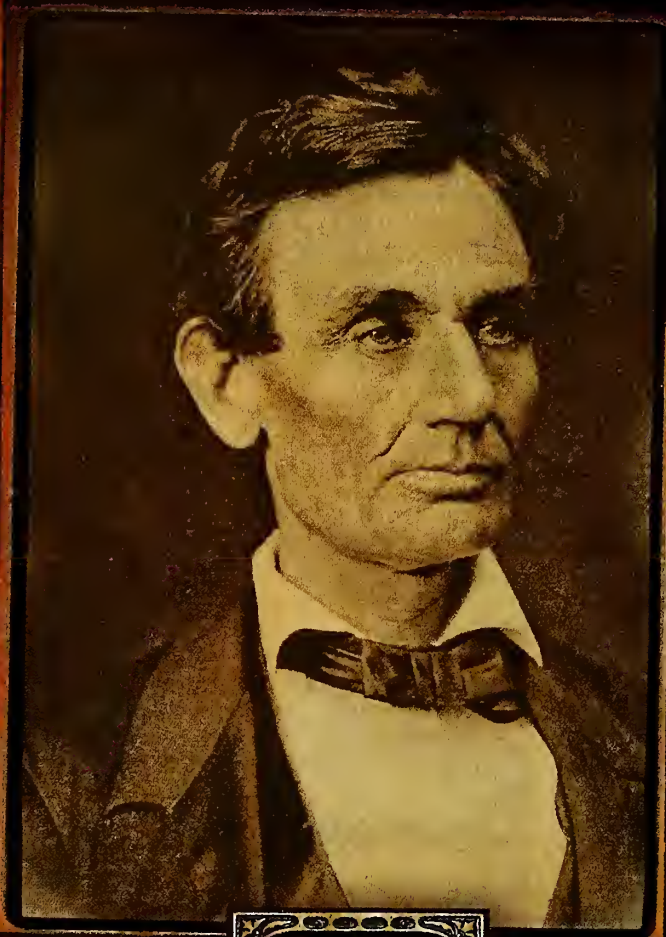


» House and cabin:
(against a background of
the Lincoln wallpaper,
counterclockwise from
upper left) Abraham
Lincoln, photographed in
Springfield on June 3,
1860; the "traditional"
birthplace cabin, before its
enshrinement; the
Lincolns' Springfield home
(with elevations of the
house along the bottom
border); a typical cam-
paign image of the
Railsplitter; Kentucky's
landmark Boundary Oak

BY GEOFFREY JOHNSON

TRUE LINCOLN

Two places that figured prominently in **Abraham Lincoln's** life—his Kentucky birthplace and the Springfield house in which he and his family lived for 17 years—now loom large in keeping his memory alive. One has a history steeped in fraud and hucksterism; the other is a model of meticulous renovation and preservation. Each, in its way, offers opportunities to connect with the real Lincoln—before he belonged to the ages



D



uring the late 1920s, a journalist from Madison, Wisconsin, named Frederick Lionel Holmes made what he called "a series of pilgrimages to every place made memorable by some event associated with Mr. Lincoln's life." His mode of travel for this two-year journey was a roadster he called The Pilgrim. "No road could be too miry; no pathway too tangled or obscure for it to follow," wrote Holmes. "When the way was open and free, the little car seemed like an animal sensing a delight in going." One October, with Wisconsin lieutenant governor Henry Huber as companion, Holmes pointed The Pilgrim toward Kentucky's Larue County. There, on the south fork of the Nolin River, enclosed in a granite and marble structure worthy of the Acropolis, stood a one-room log cabin, the celebrated birthplace of Abraham Lincoln.

As he drew closer to his destination, Holmes began to worry about the incongruity of a primitive cabin set within a Greek temple. While he wanted his first visit to Lincoln's birthplace to be "impressive," he also wanted a sense of tradition, a feeling of pioneer life. Suddenly, three miles south of Hodgenville, Kentucky, a stone edifice on top of a hill burst into view, and Holmes's doubts fell away. Leaving The Pilgrim, he ascended the 56 steps—one for each year of Lincoln's life—that led to the building, passed between its Doric columns, and entered the hushed inner chamber. "The log cabin was now within view and I forgot all else," he later recalled. "How humble it seemed; how . . . pitifully small." He approached the site's longtime caretaker, John M. Cissel, and asked the obvious question: "Is this really the cabin in which Abraham Lincoln was born?" Assured of its authenticity by Cissel, who told him that it had been returned precisely to "the spot where it stood in 1809," Holmes could not bring himself to leave. He closely examined every crack and crevice, peered through the chained doorway at the hearth, and, overcome by sadness, reflected on the meager comforts and obvious poverty of the pioneer family that had lived there.

When he finally left the "temple," Holmes descended to a sunken spring located in a sandstone grotto. He drank of its "crystalline waters," which once had sated Lincoln's thirst, and then stood in the shade of an imposing tree, the legendary Boundary Oak that had served as a local landmark for more than a century. The tree had sheltered the toddler Abraham as he played on the Kentucky hillside, and to Holmes it had all the nobility and dignity of an elderly and revered human being. "I have had a good talk with one of Mr. Lincoln's more intimate child-



hood neighbors," he told Huber as they returned to The Pilgrim.

Holmes might not have been so satisfied with his Kentucky pilgrimage had he realized that, like thousands of other Americans, he'd been had. One of the principal objectives of his cross-country journey had been to learn the truth about Lincoln's life. "Many a fable vanished when the actual facts became apparent," he wrote at the conclusion of his journey, not realizing he had accepted as gospel one of the more apocryphal Lincoln myths—that the ramshackle cabin south of Hodgenville was the actual 1809 birthplace of the 16th President of the United States.

So it goes in Lincoln land, where myth, misconception, and commerce have so shrouded the great man that he remains hard to find. Ever since the Republicans nominated Lincoln for President in Chicago in May 1860—and particularly since his assassination in 1865—Lincoln pilgrims have headed for two shrines, in particular: the sainted birthplace cabin outside Hodgenville, and the wood-frame house at the corner of Eighth and Jackson in Springfield, Illinois, where he lived for 17 years before leaving for Washington. Initially, many of the visitors were Civil War veterans, but long since the last soldier died off, the Lincoln sites have remained popular and revered destinations. Today, about 250,000 pilgrims visit the birthplace annually, and more than 400,000 stop by the Springfield house and environs.



SPRING ON LINCOLN FARM, HODGENVILLE, KY. V.478

69035



» (Opposite) A man, a car, a book: The Wisconsin journalist Fred Holmes poses with his trusty roadster, *The Pilgrim*, at the entrance to the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Park in Indiana (known today as the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial); the cover of Holmes's 1930 book, which chronicled his two-year journey through the Lincoln country; (this page, from top) a postcard image of the sinking spring that gave the Lincoln birthplace farm its name; the discredited birthplace cabin, celebrated today for its symbolic importance; 56 steps—one for each year of Lincoln's life—lead up to the marble and granite memorial that houses the cabin outside of Hodgenville, Kentucky.

"I am going to make a barrel of money off the cabin," boasted a Kentucky preacher and evangelist.

As it turns out, the log cabin and the unpretentious two-story house offer perfect contrasts in the nature of preservation—the log cabin, so dubious and patched together that (until the National Park Service started owning up some 15 years ago) it amounted to a virtual fraud on the public; and the house, a triumph of fastidious re-creation. As the State of Illinois completes its Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum—and as the nation looks toward the Lincoln bicentennial in 2009—the two sites offer polar lessons in managing public memorials. But the stories behind the log cabin and the frame house are intriguing in their own right, peopled as they are by an entertaining (if flawed) cast of characters—a slick Methodist preacher, an altruistic but financially inept New York restaurateur, an overly possessive house sitter, and an unscrupulous collector of Lincolniana, to name a few. These are stories that tap into a resounding American affection for the 16th President, even as they raise important questions about the purposes of history.

It makes sense to begin in Kentucky, where Lincoln's own story began. "I was born Feb. 12, 1809 in then Hardin county Kentucky," he wrote in a memorandum for the painter Thomas Hicks. "My parents being dead and my own memory not serving, I know no means of identifying the precise locality." While that clearly established Kentucky as the state of his birth, further research (by the historian Louis A. Warren and others) was complicated by the fact that three different Abraham Lincolns were born in Kentucky on or before February 12, 1809, and two of those Abrahams had a father named Thomas. The nomadic habits of the Tom Lincoln who sired the future President made things even more difficult: Tom's first wife, Nancy Hanks, bore three different children in three different Kentucky cabins between 1807 and about 1811. When people became seriously interested in establishing the site, more than 80 years had passed since Lincoln's birth; by then, any dilapidated old cabin in northwestern Kentucky had become associated with the martyred President. In fact, as late as 1926, Warren documented 15 sites in three different states that continued to lay claim to having "the log cabin of the nativity."

Using information supplied by Lincoln and others, historians did determine that he had been born in Hardin (now Larue) County, Kentucky, somewhere on Nolin Creek south of Robert Hodgen's mill. Tom Lincoln had bought the 348-acre Sinking Spring Farm in that locale for about \$200 in December 1808. A cabin may have already occupied the site, and there, on a

cold Sunday in February 1809, Abraham Lincoln entered the world.

Sometime in 1811, the Lincoln family moved ten miles northeast to a farm on Knob Creek. But by examining deed books from Hardin and Larue counties, Warren established the various owners of the ten acres surrounding the spring that gave the Lincoln farm its name. Tom Lincoln was the eighth of 25 owners.

The birthplace cabin was another matter. Following Lincoln's assassination in 1865, a Cincinnati publisher sent the artist John Rowbotham to Kentucky to make a picture of the Sinking Spring Farm, and he found no cabin on the site. Richard Creal, the 20th owner of the ten-acre plot identified by Warren, showed Rowbotham a few rocks in the middle of a field of barley that he claimed were remnants of the cabin's chimney. At the edge of the field were two old pear trees, which Creal said Tom Lincoln had planted as a "gateway" leading to his cabin. Otherwise, there was nothing there.

During the next 30 years, pilgrims continued to travel to the Sinking Spring Farm. By then, the spring had become a cattle wallow, and the birthplace was little more than a briar patch. But in February 1894, the *Louisville Times* announced plans to locate the exact spot where Lincoln was born and establish there a national memorial. While nothing came of this particular scheme, the *Times* article did feature a sketch of a cabin, drawn from recollections of old neighbors of the Lincolns. This may have suggested to a credulous public that the actual birthplace still existed—which is where Alfred Dennett and James Bigham entered the picture. Dennett, a New Yorker, had amassed a fortune with a nationwide chain of lunchrooms. Deeply religious, he generously supported a home for wayward women as well as a number of mission organizations. One of his associates was the Reverend James Bigham, a Methodist preacher and evangelist in western Kentucky. In 1894, Bigham convinced the restaurateur that the Lincoln birthplace would make a good investment. Dennett bought 110 of the Lincoln farm's original 348 acres (including the acreage around the spring) for \$3,000, and initially planned to build a large hotel there.

But on August 29, 1895, the *Larue County Herald* reported that Harvey Bigham, the preacher's son, had received a telegram from Dennett "instructing him to have built at once a log cabin on the Lincoln Farm, exactly where stood the cabin in which Lincoln was born, and the cabin is to be built out of the identical logs that were in the original cabin."

Within three weeks, the Bighams claimed to have complied with Dennett's instructions. Local tradition had it that Dr. George Rodman, an admirer of Lincoln's, had visited the President in Washington, D.C., during the Civil War. On his return, the story went, he had bought the birthplace cabin and moved it to his property about a mile north of its original location. (There was at least one problem with this version of history: It was George Rodman's brother Jesse, a former state congressman, who visited Lincoln, in 1864.) Subsequent tenants made improvements and additions to the original structure.

Back Parlor, Abraham Lincoln's Home, Springfield, Illinois



» (From top) an anachronistic rendering of the Lincolns' back parlor; Lincoln's Springfield home as it appeared when Fred Holmes saw it in the late 1920s (note the white paint, the overgrowth of trees, and the flag and utility poles); the house today, restored to look as it did in 1860, when Lincoln was running for President

"My parents being dead," wrote Lincoln of his birthplace, "and my own memory not serving, I know no means of identifying the precise locality."

This, then, was the building Rev. Bigham bought in 1895 for \$200. It was haphazardly dismantled, and its central portion returned to a knoll by the old sunken spring and fashioned into a one-room cabin. No attention was given to returning the logs to their original positions, and because several logs had rotted or been altered, some new ones were used in the reconstruction. Still, using the Rodman story as corroboration, Bigham insisted he had resurrected the cabin where Lincoln was born. "Harvey and I are going to make a barrel of money off the cabin," the preacher told his friends and colleagues.

But Rev. Bigham's barrel was slow in filling. His plan for 15,000 Civil War veterans to visit the site in conjunction with their 1895 Louisville encampment collapsed when he demanded an exorbitant 50 cents per vet. Nor could Bigham persuade the Illinois Central Railroad to make the farm a regular tourist stop, and the site languished. A typical, non-paying visitor was John C. Cutler, a Mormon missionary who made a birthplace "pilgrimage" in April 1896, seven months after the cabin was erected. As he later described it, Cutler set off from Hodgenville early on a Sunday morning. Accompanied by a Mormon elder, he followed a meandering lane "through country characteristic of 'Old Kaintuck.'" Cows drank from big ponds, and pigs rooted in the hollows. Half a mile into their walk, the two men came upon a colony of former slaves. "I often go down and drink out of the spring on the Lincoln farm," said a freedman named Albert Hundley, "and I believe the water tastes better than my spring water, 'cause Lincoln drank out of it."

Cutler found the Lincoln farm to be a quiet, rude piece of land. A narrow path led across a field dotted with trees, toward a tiny cabin set alone on a slight rise. At a nearby frame house, Cutler met a man named Brown, who was Dennett's tenant. Like other Larue County residents, Brown was contemptuous of the souvenir hunters who stopped at the farm. He recalled a group of Easterners from the previous fall. "They all picked up some pieces of glass dishes which were near the cabin, thinking they were getting parts of dishes that Abraham Lincoln ate off," said Brown scornfully. "Instead they were only carrying off remnants of dishes that people before them had thrown away after eating their lunch."

Finally, Rev. Bigham decided to take the cabin directly to the people. The Tennessee Centennial Exposition was scheduled for Nashville in 1897, and Bigham, acting as Alfred Dennett's agent, contracted to deliver not only the Lincoln cabin, but also the (similarly dubious) cabin where Jefferson Davis was supposedly born. David Rankin Barbee, a young Tennessee reporter, confronted Bigham on the fair's midway and asked him how he knew that Lincoln was born in that particular cabin. "Lincoln was born in a log cabin,

weren't he?" replied Bigham. "Well, one cabin is as good as another." After the Nashville exposition, the cabins made several other appearances before being dismantled and stored in the basement of a mansion in Queens, New York.

Following some bad investments in a California mining venture, Dennett became especially eager to unload the Lincoln farm. Bigham unsuccessfully lobbied Congress to buy the property, and a deal to sell the site to Chicago's Saint Luke Society (for use as a sanitarium for recovering alcoholics and drug addicts) fell apart at the last minute. In November 1901, Dennett filed for bankruptcy, and his creditors went after the farm. Dennett, however, had secretly transferred the deed (and the cabin logs) to his friend David Crear, and though Dennett had continued to pay taxes on the farm and received payments from tenants, the transfer to Crear was initially accepted as legal. Following the completion of his bankruptcy proceedings in 1903, Dennett broke down; he was declared insane and committed to State Hospital in Stockton, California.

At this point, the Lincoln farm might have faded into obscurity had not Jenkin Lloyd Jones, a fiery Chicago clergyman, chosen that moment to raise his voice. With his thick white hair, long white beard, and fierce gaze, the Welsh-born Jones looked like a biblical patriarch—or the abolitionist John Brown. A onetime Unitarian minister, he preached brotherhood, democracy, and peace at All Souls Church, his nonsectarian enclave at Oakwood Boulevard and Langley Avenue. Like many Civil War veterans—he had served three years as an artilleryman with the 6th Wisconsin Battery—Jones had a deep reverence for Lincoln. Forty years after the assassination, Jones built the \$200,000 seven-story building called the Abraham Lincoln Center at 700 East Oakwood Boulevard. Frank Lloyd Wright, Jones's nephew, was the original architect for the center, but he and his uncle fought over the design and Wright eventually resigned the job (though the final product—which today houses Northeastern Illinois University's Center for City Studies—reveals Wright's distinctive imprint).

In 1904, the year before the center opened, Jones, then 60, probably accompanied by his 31-year-old son Richard, made a pilgrimage to Hodgenville. He found the birthplace a desolate site, and he was appalled that someone might use the farm to turn a profit. When he returned to Chicago, he began a campaign to persuade Congress to buy and restore the property. Soon his son Richard had picked up the cry, and as managing editor of *Collier's Weekly*, he convinced the publisher, Robert J. Collier, of the importance of the birthplace.

In 1905, a judge decreed that Dennett's transfer of the farm to Crear had been illegal, and ordered the sale of the farm. On a hot August morning in Hodgenville, Richard Lloyd Jones, representing Collier, was one of five serious bidders. A local citizen opened with an offer of \$1,500, and bidding continued in increments of \$100 until a Louisville lawyer bid \$3,500. Jones paused for several seconds before finally going to \$3,600. The auctioneer called out, "One, two, three—sold!" and the farm became the property of *Collier's* magazine.

On February 10, 1906, three years before the centenary of Lincoln's birth, *Collier's* announced the formation of the Lincoln Farm Association, with Missouri governor Joseph W. Folk as president, Collier as vice president, and Richard Lloyd Jones as secretary. The association's diverse 28-member board of trustees included Samuel Clemens, the sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens, silver-tongued William Jennings Bryan, the labor leader Samuel Gompers, and the muckraking journalist Ida Tarbell. The association called for the creation of a national park at the birthplace, and asked for contributions of 25 cents or more to erect a marble shrine on the site. The Chicago Committee for the Lincoln Farm Association, which included Mrs. Potter Palmer and Mrs. Marshall Field, upped the ante and solicited contributions ranging from \$25 to \$1,000.

In February 1906, Collier bought the dismantled birthplace cabin for \$1,000 from David Crear, and the Lincoln Farm Association boasted that it had "rescued" both the Lincoln farm and the cabin "from (continued on page 138)

those who sought to exploit them for private gain." From a basement in Queens, the association recovered enough partially decayed logs to make two cabins. Some logs were marked with roman numerals, carved there a decade earlier by the young John M. Cissel prior to the removal of the Lincoln cabin to Nashville in 1897. Other logs, numbered with black paint, were likely remnants of the Jefferson Davis cabin. In many cases there were no markings at all. It seemed that the logs from the alleged Lincoln and Davis cabins had been irrevocably mixed together.

In June 1906, this mess of rotting lumber was loaded onto a railroad flatcar decorated with bunting and pictures of Lincoln and ceremoniously conveyed from New York to Kentucky. While the cabin traveled America by rail, the Lincoln Farm Association hired a Hodgenville law firm, Williams and Handley, to collect affidavits from several longtime Larue County residents. Zerelda Jane Goff had moved into the county in 1831, when she was 11, and she had played as a child by the famous sunken spring and in two nearby cabins. This was 20 years after the Lincolns had left the farm, but, Goff told the association, "the history given by the residents of this community at that time" denoted the larger of those cabins as the Lincoln birthplace. Sixty-three-year-old Lafayette Wilson, a Civil War veteran and lifelong resident of Larue County, maintained that in March 1860 he had helped move this larger cabin to the farm where it had eventually been uncovered by Rev. Bigham. Finally, John T. Davenport, who had moved into the cabin in 1875 when he was 28 (and who later sold the remodeled cabin to Bigham), claimed "it was known by all the old residents that these logs were taken from the Lincoln cabin at the spring." As with Goff's, however, Davenport's testimony depended on hearsay evidence: He had not arrived in Larue County until, at the earliest, 1854.

Nevertheless, based on the testimony of Davenport, Wilson, and Goff, the firm of Williams and Handley concluded that the association had indeed acquired the cabin where Abraham Lincoln had been born. "We close the testimony," they wrote, "with the submission of the facts to the public, believing that the American people will not be so unreasonable or critical as to demand more conclusive evidence of the birthplace of this great American." Left unanswered was why, in 1831, anyone would have been interested in pointing out to the 11-year-old Zerelda Jane the crumbling birthplace of Abraham

Lincoln, who at the time was a struggling 22-year-old storekeeper in an unknown Illinois backwater. Nor was the association dismayed that Lafayette Wilson claimed to have moved the cabin in March 1860, two months before Lincoln was even nominated for President, and years before the Civil War trip to Washington, D.C., by George Rodman—a trip actually made by Jesse Rodman—that allegedly occasioned the cabin's move in the first place. What's more, Wilson had also testified that many of the original logs had been rotten in 1860, and that he had used a number of new logs when reconstructing the cabin after its move.

The Lincoln Farm Association also chose to ignore the affidavit of John C. Creal, a Larue County judge whose father had bought the Sinking Spring acreage about 1867. It was Judge Creal's father who had shown the artist John Rowbotham around the birthplace site in 1865, and Judge Creal himself who sold the farm to Alfred Dennett in 1894. Creal had

**"In the 1880s," says
one National Park
Service historian,
"context wasn't neces-
sary yet. People wanted
to see the stuff."**

actually been born on part of the Lincoln farm in 1836, and he remembered the alleged Lincoln birthplace cabin as being fairly new in his youth—in other words, not a structure that had been erected around 1809. Creal also testified that in 1893, when interest in the Lincoln birthplace cabin had begun to grow, his 70-year-old mother told him to pay no heed to local gossip, and that the logs of the Davenport cabin "had no connection whatever with the logs in the original cabin." Though the judge was 16 years younger than Zerelda Jane Goff (who was 86 when she testified in May 1906), the farm association discounted Creal's testimony on the basis of his age.

Meanwhile, up across the Ohio River, in Rockport, Indiana, lived Jacob S. Brother, described by those who knew him as a "highly respected Christian gentleman," and whose wizened face, bald pate, and flowing white imperial bespoke his 80-plus years. Perhaps as early as 1827, when he was eight, but most certainly from 1835 to 1840, Brother had lived on the Sinking Spring Farm. Of greater interest, he claimed even to have lived briefly

in the cabin where Lincoln was born. Eventually, however, Brother's father, Henry, built a newer cabin for his family; the old Lincoln cabin was torn down and, according to Brother, its logs were used for firewood. "The pictures we often see of the house in which Lincoln was born are pictures of the . . . house built by my father," insisted Brother, whose story (recounted in J. T. Hobson's 1909 *Footprints of Abraham Lincoln*) would explain why Judge Creal remembered a newer cabin by the sunken spring in the 1840s.

To design its Kentucky shrine, the Lincoln Farm Association selected the architect John Russell Pope, a New Yorker trained in Paris and Rome who is best known today for his National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. Pope planned a classical temple made of Connecticut granite and Tennessee marble, a prescient miniature of Henry Bacon's Lincoln Memorial that would appear in Washington in the 1920s.

On February 12, 1909, 100 years to the day after Lincoln's birth, eager passengers jammed the Illinois Central's five special trains to Hodgenville. Not only was President Theodore Roosevelt going to lay the cornerstone for Pope's marble temple, but the Lincoln cabin had been hauled out of its fireproof storeroom in Louisville and temporarily re-erected. At the birth site, thousands of chilly pilgrims, some with umbrellas aloft, crowded around the old wooden structure, and Teddy Roosevelt, grinning and resplendent on the barren Kentucky hillside, gaily tipped his silk top hat to them all.

Following his remarks, Roosevelt passed between two rows of soldiers to the cornerstone, and there I. T. Montgomery, purportedly one of Jeff Davis's former slaves, dropped a copy of the Emancipation Proclamation into a time capsule that held several other artifacts. The capsule was sealed and handed to Roosevelt, who placed it within the cornerstone. He then picked up a silver trowel and lathered mortar on the stone. "He was not content with one trowelful," wrote a reporter for the *Larue County Herald*, "but dashed on two or three and spread them out something like a stone mason does when learning his trade." Mission accomplished, Roosevelt descended the hill, shook a few hands, and headed back to Washington.

Two years later, President William Howard Taft spoke at the dedication of the completed memorial. In 1916, the association donated the 110-acre birthplace memorial (and a \$50,000 main- (continued on page 145)

tenance fund) to the U.S. government. This prompted a visit from President Woodrow Wilson, who, in a speech that displayed a keen insight into Lincoln's brooding personality, then chose to emphasize the symbolic importance of the site. "Is not this an altar," he asked, "upon which we may forever keep alive the vestal fire of democracy, as upon a shrine at which some of the deepest and most sacred hopes of mankind may from age to age be rekindled?"

In 1939, the National Park Service, which had assumed administration of the Lincoln farm from the War Department in 1933, belatedly started to look into the farm's history. A 1941 brochure acknowledged that it was "impossible" to confirm the cabin's authenticity. Nevertheless, visitors to the memorial were told they were seeing the "traditional" birthplace cabin.

Concerned that the park service had done no more than "gloss over [the cabin's] questionable origin," Roy Hays, an insurance investigator from Grosse Pointe, Michigan, conducted his own investigation. Writing in the *Abraham Lincoln Quarterly* in 1948, Hays—the unsung hero of the Hodgenville saga—carefully reviewed all the available evidence and concluded that the cabin was not authentic. Only after the *Washington Post* published Hays's conclusions on its front page did the National Park Service begin to take a closer look at the cabin. In 1949, Benjamin H. Davis, a historical aide at the Hodgenville park, reviewed all the available information and concluded, "The evidence against the cabin's supporting tradition is overwhelming."

Further reports followed. In 1968, Gloria Peterson of the park service's division of history blamed the Lincoln Farm Association for any confusion about the origins of the cabin, whose "doubtful authenticity" she acknowledged. (She also emphasized that the U.S. government should not be in the business of "patriotic fulfillment.") But in 1986, when I first visited Hodgenville, a sign next to the cabin read: "While lacking absolute proof, oral tradition and available documentation support the belief that this cabin has been reconstructed with some of the original logs on or very near the birth site." Two years later the sign was gone, but a ranger assured me that "some of the logs are believed to be original"—a notion that has since been emphatically disproved by Henri Grissino-Mayer, a dendrochronologist at the University of Tennessee, who recently took some

samples from the logs and concluded none of them were old enough to have been used to build a cabin early in the 19th century.

Today, rangers at the site emphasize the cabin's "symbolic" importance—while leaving no doubt that it is *not* the cabin where Lincoln was born. "I think the purpose of the park is to perpetuate Lincoln's memory," said Jennie Jones, a park ranger, when we spoke last May. "And some people—especially older people—do have an emotional response. Some of them even tear up." So it seems that, after 56 years, the park service is finally following Roy Hays's benign conclusion: "Although the cabin is merely legendary, still it is symbolic of Lincoln's humble origin, and to know the facts about it need not detract from the pleasure of those who visit the beautiful park where it is enshrined."

Indeed, the park's beauty may be its greatest charm. Encountered in early morning, its

**"If this is the color
that Mary and Abe had
the house painted,"
insists the home's super-
intendent, "then we
should honor that."**

well-groomed lawns and tall, full-leaved oaks glisten in the sunlight. Inside the visitor center, where a short film narrated by the late Burgess Meredith tells about the Lincolns' Kentucky years, a number of artifacts sit behind glass: Tom and Nancy Lincoln's marriage bond, their Neufchâtel Bible, a survey of their farm. Outside the center, the Memorial Building beckons. Inside the marble hall, the cabin sits behind a chain enclosure. The tiny structure—its single room, which visitors are not allowed to enter, has an area of little more than 200 square feet—has only one door and one small window. At one end there is a crude (and potentially hazardous) "cat and clay" chimney built with logs and mud. Near the Memorial Building, at the foot of the hill, the sunken spring still spills forth clear water. Taxed by time, weather, insects, and disease, the once magnificent Boundary Oak, which had so delighted Fred Holmes, died in 1976, and its rotting remains were finally cut down ten years later.

Yet, though the cabin is a fraud, the Lincoln legend remains irresistible. From every state in the Union people pour in, driving

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page 198 of this issue.



battered yellow school buses and oversize SUVs past fields of corn, soybeans, and tobacco—pilgrims all, motoring toward an American Bethlehem.

And now back to the itinerant Madison journalist Fred Holmes. “For months,” he wrote around 1930, “I had planned by day and dreamed by night what a consummation of longing would come from a visit to Springfield, Illinois—Lincoln’s manhood home. One would pass over the ground that history had marked for its own; would feel the throb that comes from meeting a friend long known but never met.”

When he finally did steer *The Pilgrim* down from Wisconsin and into the capital of Illinois, Holmes responded like a fervent lover. “It was dark,” he wrote of his arrival, “and the mists of spring hung in circles of yellow gossamer around the buzzing street lights. I must go out and walk the damp streets and alleys; survey the buildings and scan the threatening March sky.” Then, as now, Springfield contained many Lincoln sites, including his law office and tomb, but the most venerable was the house where Lincoln had lived for 17 years.

But rather than rush to the home, Holmes prolonged his rapture into the following day, rambling the streets Lincoln had trod and eating lunch before visiting the house. Outside he found a long line of automobiles and a crowd of “pilgrims” waiting for the house to open. Finally, “through the trees just swelling into bud,” he laid eyes on his destination: an “unadorned, white, green-blinded, two-story frame building, crowding the corner of an ordinary city lot.” Holmes entered the home and spoke with its custodian, Virginia Stuart Brown. And then, as other visitors came and went, he settled into a chair and studied the furniture, the “pioneer architecture,” the mementos hung on the wall. “Nearly a score of windows, symmetrically arranged, admit the sunlight and breeze, making of this shrine a haven where one longs to linger in memory with the tender associations of the distinguished past.”

Sated, the journalist emerged from his reverie and departed the house, returning to a “world of commonplace activities.” And there we leave Fred Holmes as (in his own phrase) “time drops the curtain.”

Curtain up. More than 70 years have passed since Holmes published *Abraham Lincoln Traveled This Way*, the record of his two-year pilgrimage,

yet Springfield remains the mecca of all things Lincoln and the two-story frame house its most hallowed shrine. But visitors to the home today will confront a scene different from what Holmes saw. To begin with, they must park their cars two blocks away, since no automobile traffic is allowed on that particular stretch of Eighth Street. And as they approach the home, no dense foliage obscures the view.

The chief difference, however, is the color of the house. Dark green shutters still frame the neatly aligned windows, but the house is no longer white; it is a rich, soft brown—and therein lies a story that demonstrates the stark difference between the presentation of the home and the birthplace cabin. When Lincoln bought the house in 1844, it was a one-and-a-half-story white cottage, but it seems that by 1848 he had painted it a shade of brown. At some time, probably in the early 20th century, the house was painted white, and it remained that color until 1952. In that year a study sponsored by the Lincoln Home Advisory Committee (a panel assembled by Illinois governor Adlai Stevenson) concluded that the house had indeed been brown in 1860. Plans were made to repaint the house, which gave rise to an abstract but essential question: What color is brown?

Researchers were hampered in their efforts to determine the exact color by the lack of definitive paint samples from the house that could be ascribed to Lincoln’s day. The many descriptions of the house that appeared in the national newspapers after the future President’s May 1860 nomination differed too much to be dependable. The exterior was variously called “plain brown,” “stone color,” “gray or drab colored,” and “a most beautiful dirty clay color.”

Further complicating the problem was the outrage expressed by many Springfield residents, chiefly Virginia Brown, the house’s custodian since 1924. Brown argued that not only had the house been white during at least part of Lincoln’s residency, but white was a more pleasing—and the more traditionally accepted—color. The disputing factions finally met at the house on August 20, 1952, and they watched as a handyman scraped off about ten layers of white paint to reveal several layers of brown. Miss Brown resisted this evidence, insisting the examined portion of the house dated only to the 1880s, but the advisory committee resolved to go ahead and paint the house a color known as Quaker brown, which it defined as “just about the shade” of the suit worn that

day by the site superintendent, Ray Hubbs.

On November 7, 1952, the day the house was to be painted, the same group reassembled at the site and watched as the color was mixed by the painters. “Keep it lighter, keep it lighter,” Brown exhorted, as the committee stood by, silent. Finally, when the color of the paint seemed the approximate color of Hubbs’s suit, Brown voiced her approval. “I think it’s going to look nice,” she said. Nevertheless, she angrily resigned the following May, displeased with the color of the paint and with other changes to the house.

Subsequent investigations, however, revealed that Brown’s displeasure was misplaced. Just a year after her resignation, James Hickey, then curator of the Illinois State Historical Library’s Lincoln collection, discovered a sample of paint that could be dated to the short period of time—between 1856 and 1857—when the front of the house had been raised to two stories, but the back was still only a story and a half. When the back was raised in 1857, part of the east eave, raised and painted in 1856, was concealed and preserved—and it had been painted Quaker brown. Even better examples surfaced during a thorough restoration in the late 1980s, when workers tore apart and then scrupulously reassembled the house. Thanks to some persistent detective work, and a careful scrutiny of the evidence that was revealed, history had won out.

Of course, this sort of obsessive behavior raises some questions: Was it really essential the house be painted that precise shade of brown? Would the experience of casual visitors have suffered had they encountered a house painted, say, umber or fawn? Having pondered such matters in the past, Richard Lusardi, the National Park Service’s superintendent for the Lincoln home (as well as its maintenance chief during the 1980s restoration), has a ready answer. “Whether or not the house was painted brown or pink or purple,” he says, “if we have the documentation that says *this* is the color that Mary and Abe had the building painted, then we should honor that. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder, and although we may not agree with the color that’s on there, it’s the color of choice that they made. It was *their* choice.”

When it comes to the Lincoln home, Lusardi is not alone in his insistence on historical accuracy. Almost from the moment Lincoln left for Washington in February 1861, people have recognized the significance

battered yellow school buses and oversize SUVs past fields of corn, soybeans, and tobacco—pilgrims all, motoring toward an American Bethlehem.

And now back to the itinerant Madison journalist Fred Holmes. “For months,” he wrote around 1930, “I had planned by day and dreamed by night what a consummation of longing would come from a visit to Springfield, Illinois—Lincoln’s manhood home. One would pass over the ground that history had marked for its own; would feel the throb that comes from meeting a friend long known but never met.”

When he finally did steer *The Pilgrim* down from Wisconsin and into the capital of Illinois, Holmes responded like a fervent lover. “It was dark,” he wrote of his arrival, “and the mists of spring hung in circles of yellow gossamer around the buzzing street lights. I must go out and walk the damp streets and alleys; survey the buildings and scan the threatening March sky.” Then, as now, Springfield contained many Lincoln sites, including his law office and tomb, but the most venerable was the house where Lincoln had lived for 17 years.

But rather than rush to the home, Holmes prolonged his rapture into the following day, rambling the streets Lincoln had trod and eating lunch before visiting the house. Outside he found a long line of automobiles and a crowd of “pilgrims” waiting for the house to open. Finally, “through the trees just swelling into bud,” he laid eyes on his destination: an “unadorned, white, green-blinded, two-story frame building, crowding the corner of an ordinary city lot.” Holmes entered the home and spoke with its custodian, Virginia Stuart Brown. And then, as other visitors came and went, he settled into a chair and studied the furniture, the “pioneer architecture,” the mementos hung on the wall. “Nearly a score of windows, symmetrically arranged, admit the sunlight and breeze, making of this shrine a haven where one longs to linger in memory with the tender associations of the distinguished past.”

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of the home, and they—Lincoln's son Robert among them—have insisted that, wherever possible, history should always trump aesthetics, tradition, or personal preference. Fortunately, scores of contemporary illustrations, photographs, and written descriptions make that task a little easier. Additionally, the park service's work has been facilitated by the home's well-established pedigree.

When Elijah Iles, the son of a Kentucky sheriff, visited Illinois in 1821, he liked the territory around the Sangamon River so much he resolved to stay. On April 15, 1824, after the General Land Office officially offered property for sale, Iles bought an 80-acre tract at \$1.25 an acre. Over the next decade he acquired more land, and in 1836 the "Elijah Iles Addition" was incorporated into the growing town of Springfield.

The annexation enhanced the value of Iles's land, and in 1837 he began selling off portions of his property. The lot at the northeast corner of Eighth and Jackson eventually passed to Rev. Charles Dresser, a Brown University graduate who had left his Episcopalian ministry in Virginia because of his opposition to slavery. Dresser acquired the Springfield lot in 1839, and that May, two carpenters originally from New Hampshire—John Eaton and his son, Page—built Dresser a cottage in the Greek Revival style out of oak, black walnut, and hickory. (Historians once thought that Dresser's brother Henry, a carpenter and builder, may have helped design the house—a notion laid to rest by Wayne C. Temple in his 1984 book, *By Square and Compasses: The Building of Lincoln's Home and Its Saga*.)

In July 1841, eager to erase some debts, Dresser put his home up for sale. Meanwhile, as he awaited a buyer, Dresser, the rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, presided at the November 1842 marriage of a local lawyer and legislator, Abraham Lincoln, to Mary Todd, a vivacious belle from one of the leading families of Lexington, Kentucky. The Lincolns took up residence, for \$4 a week, in Springfield's Globe Tavern, and there, on August 1, 1843, Mary bore Abraham a son, Robert. The family needed a home of their own, and in the spring of 1844, Dresser sold his house and lot to Lincoln for \$1,200 and a lot in the town's business district (owned by Lincoln) valued at \$300.

Lincoln lived in his Springfield home for nearly 17 years. Three of his sons—Edward, William, and Thomas (called Tad)—were born in the house, and Eddie died there in 1850, one month short of his fourth birthday.

As the family grew, so did the house, the chief renovations coming in the 1850s when it was raised to two stories.

When Lincoln was elected President, he decided to rent the home, perhaps anticipating a return to Springfield after his term of office. Except for what they took with them to Washington, the family sold most of their furnishings. After Lincoln's departure, Lucian Tilton, president of the Great Western Railroad, leased the home—which was administered by a Springfield agent—for \$350 a year. In 1869 Tilton moved to Chicago, taking with him some of the Lincoln furnishings he had bought in 1861; these were destroyed in 1871 when Tilton's Ontario Street home was consumed by the Chicago Fire. George Harlow, Illinois' secretary of state, followed Tilton as tenant, but in 1877, having failed to persuade Robert Lincoln to sell him the home, Harlow moved out and eventually ended up in Chicago. The next tenant, a butcher and sewing machine salesman named Jacob Akard, briefly ran a boarding house out of the home before Gustav Wendlandt, a local doctor known as the "Flying Dutchman," leased it for three years.

In 1883, after Wendlandt moved his family to southern Illinois, Osborn Hamiline Ingham Oldroyd took up residency in the now dilapidated house, paying a monthly rent of \$25. An Ohio native (as the initials of his name clearly attest), Oldroyd had seen three years of hard fighting during the Civil War. Around 1873 he moved to Springfield, where he married and began to manufacture broom handles, table legs, and other woodenware. After that business failed, he tried bookkeeping and ran an ice-cream parlor with his brothers-in-law.

Oldroyd had begun collecting Lincoln memorabilia in 1860, and shortly before moving into the Lincoln home, he published a 599-page "memorial album" that paired the former President's speeches and writings with reminiscences from some of his oldest friends. (Late in life he would have a minor bestseller with a book about the Lincoln assassination.) Despite his scholarly inclinations, some historians regard Oldroyd as an opportunist, or worse. In a 1988 conversation with me, Francis Krupka, who at the time was the park service's historical architect assisting in a major restoration of the Lincoln home, characterized him as something of a "charlatan." (Krupka died in 1999.) "Oldroyd had a knack for 'acquiring' pieces of the Lincoln home and selling them as

relics. All kinds of stuff found its way into his collection: pieces of carpet, furniture, the kitchen stove. Realistically, a lot of this stuff was most probably legitimately acquired, but some of it was acquired through marginally false pretenses."

Once he moved into the home, Oldroyd removed the folding doors that separated the front and back parlors, and there he opened his "Lincoln Museum" on April 14, 1884, the 19th anniversary of the assassination. He offered for sale views of the crowded parlor overflowing with his treasures, as well as pieces of wood and other souvenirs from the house and yard. Despite the income from these sales—and from a Springfield bookstore he opened in 1885—Oldroyd stopped paying his rent, prompting Robert Lincoln to describe his current tenant as a "deadbeat."

Confronted with rising maintenance costs, Robert began exploring the possibility of bequeathing the house to a public trust. Finally, in 1887, a board of trustees consisting of the governor and other elected officials was created, and the deed to the home was transferred to the State of Illinois. Oldroyd remained on as custodian—at an annual salary of \$1,000—after promising to bequeath the 2,000 artifacts in his museum to the state upon his death.

As time passed, the interior of the home began to take on the appearance of an antique shop, which dismayed Robert and others. But looking back, Timothy Townsend, a park service historian who wrote his master's thesis about the evolution of the Lincoln neighborhood, can understand why Oldroyd's odd collection appealed to visitors. "Today, people want us to put the man [Lincoln] in context," says Townsend. "But in the 1880s, context wasn't necessary yet. People wanted to see the stuff."

Early in 1893, the board of trustees terminated Oldroyd, but his collection never did become state property. Instead, at the invitation of the federal government, Oldroyd took his collection to Washington, D.C., and installed it in the Petersen House, the boarding house across the street from Ford's Theatre where Lincoln had died. In 1926, four years before Oldroyd's death, the government paid \$50,000 for the collection, which by then included rare books, photographs, sculptures, mementos, and a few Lincoln furnishings. Today, some of Oldroyd's artifacts have been incorporated into a display at Ford's Theatre, while other pieces, such as the Lincolns' kitchen stove, have slowly found

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their way back to the Springfield house.

Following Oldroyd's departure, the state appointed Herman Hofferkamp, a disabled Civil War veteran, as custodian. In 1897, Robert Lincoln's cousin Albert Edwards replaced Hofferkamp, and for the next half century, the job remained in the family. When Edwards died in 1915, he was replaced by his wife, Josephine; when she died in 1918, her daughter, Mary Edwards Brown, took over, and upon her resignation in 1924, she was succeeded by Virginia Stuart Brown, who was no relation. Though there would be subsequent custodians, Virginia Brown was the last to actually live in the house. She moved out in 1952 following the decision to open the second floor to the public, and she resigned in 1953.

Meanwhile, the board of trustees that had supervised the Lincoln Homestead since 1887 had been abolished in 1917 and the home transferred to Illinois' Department of Public Works and Buildings. The Abraham Lincoln Association of Springfield acquired more period furnishings, and the interior of the home was arranged according to sketches made in 1860 by an artist for *Leslie's Illustrated Weekly*. The state conducted another major overhaul in the 1950s (which impelled Virginia Brown's departure). Finally, on August 18, 1971, at a ceremony in the Old State Capitol, President Richard Nixon signed legislation creating the Lincoln Home National Historic Site, and the following year the home was transferred from the state to the National Park Service.

Park service historians conducted a thorough examination of the house and its history and produced a report that would lay the foundation for the restoration that was completed in 1988. As part of its investigation, the park service removed every board in the house, and it looked closely at most of the interior walls. Not only did this examination reveal new facts about the home's history; it also uncovered significant amounts of structural deterioration, the most serious caused by termites, which had been a problem for years. In 1952 a minor controversy flared when a Springfield labor leader—backed up by the contractor hired to repair the home—accused the state of allowing termites to “chew away” at the venerable shrine, and then covering up the damage with paint. A local exterminator quieted the furor with assurances that he had long ago rid the home of termites and powder beetles, and the 1954

restoration made some inroads against the damage they had left behind.

Two decades later, an appraisal of the house revealed that the termites were indeed long gone, but the severe damage they had inflicted remained. The home's northeast corner post was diagnosed as critical, as was the oak sill beam that lay on top of the brick foundation and supported much of the east wing. Workmen eventually removed the beam, which by then was essentially little more than a hollow tube, and installed a replacement in pieces as the restoration moved along. To guide future historians, all new materials were stamped with the year they were put in place.

Besides finding termite damage, the park service discovered that many of the nail connections had moved out of alignment. The home's frame was drawn back into its correct position, its members were secured with steel bolts, and then the original nails—which, with the presence of the bolts, were superfluous—were carefully reinserted into the precise holes from which they had been removed.

History was served in other ways, as in the replacement of the Lincoln elm. In the early 1840s—probably at the beginning of the Lincolns' residency—someone had planted an elm at the southwest corner of the lot. Though Mary Lincoln was most solicitous toward it—she chopped down another tree so that the elm would have more sunlight and more room for its roots—the tree seems never to have fared well. (In fact, historians have ascribed dates to photos of the home based on the dwindling size of the elm.) In 1905, the dead tree was removed, and in the ensuing years, other trees were planted to take its place. In photos from the 1920s, the house is nearly invisible because of the overgrowth.

While working on the 1980s restoration of the house, Fran Krupka read about a disease-resistant elm developed by the Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Illinois. He visited the arboretum, inspected the tree, and decided it was an attractive and suitable substitute for the Lincoln elm. It had—as the Morton Arboretum dendrologist George Ware put it at the time—“the elm gestalt,” and the park service commissioned one for the home. That particular species, one of several hybrids developed by Ware, was a cross between a Japanese elm and a rare Wilson elm out of the mountains of Szechwan in China's interior. Not only was it resistant to Dutch elm disease; it even flourished in urban environments—to such an extent that the park service has since replaced that first hybrid elm

several times so as to ensure having the same size tree as adorned the lot in 1860.

And then there is the matter of the Lincoln wallpaper. During an early restoration of Lincoln's bedroom, the remaining sample of the room's original wallpaper was shellacked as a preservative measure. “Someone took a formaldehyde-based chemical to kill the insects in the paper, but as time went on it discolored the paper,” says the site superintendent, Richard Lusardi. “So instead of having a bright, lively paper up there, you had a dull brownish paper. We found that this process could not be reversed.” Fortunately, some of the original paper was found under the darkened paper—which Lusardi claims is “just short of being a miracle”—and the wallpaper in the couple's bedrooms was exactly reproduced. Unlike dingy earlier reproductions, the current paper is shockingly bright, with blue and tan garlands cavorting beneath a colorful border trim.

Except for the parents' bedrooms, the parlors, and the dining room, the original patterns of other wallpaper throughout the house are unknown. Park historians attempted to deduce what the Lincoln family might have chosen and then selected available wallpaper that reproduced patterns dating from the 1840s and 1850s. Generally, lively and colorful patterns have been chosen and paired with dramatically colored border papers that run along the tops of the walls. The most subdued wallpaper is in the boys' bedroom; from a distance, it looks like a coat of off-white paint. Today many original Lincoln pieces furnish the home; in Lincoln's bedroom (he and Mary had separate though adjoining bedrooms), his small writing desk sits in the corner, while his shaving mirror hangs on the wall at a height appropriate to his six-foot-four stature.

With the restoration of the house essentially completed to the specifications of the 1970 master plan, Lusardi does not expect another major overhaul for at least another 75 years. There are some modern-day problems—such as parking—to be resolved, but for the time being, Lusardi puts the emphasis on what he calls “perpetual care.” “The key factor,” he says, “is a good maintenance program. Everything has a life expectancy. You get 20 or 30 years from a roof, and after it wears out, you put a new roof on. Paint is the same way. It has a life expectancy. Many people aren't used to thinking this way. But Michelangelos and Rembrandts are restored

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by art conservators, and sometimes there are more infills and things like that than is left of the original picture."

Lusardi and his colleagues are also working on restoring the house's lot. They hope to modify or replace the newer outbuildings so as to more closely resemble the Lincoln barn and woodshed (likely torn down during Oldroyd's tenancy). The backyard privy—an original 1847 model that was moved to the site in 1954—will remain, since it is a good facsimile of the original Lincoln privy and is in the correct location. In addition, the park service hopes to completely restore the surrounding neighborhood. In the late 19th century, a house to the north of the Lincoln home was torn down, and now it appears as if the Lincolns did not have any close neighbors. The park service hopes eventually to rebuild that house and another, but the preservation of the 14 existing homes, now under way, will take precedence.

So what are we to make of these contrasting structures—the phony cabin and the meticulously reconstructed house? Eighteen years ago, as I prepared to make my first Fred Holmes-like tour of the Lincoln country, I spoke with Thomas Schwartz. Today Schwartz is the official historian of Illinois, but back then he was the keeper of the state's priceless collection of Lincoln papers and artifacts. I talked to Schwartz about my long pursuit of Lincoln across the pages of books, and about my anticipation of finally seeing the places connected with his life. Schwartz shared my excitement. "The sites will give you a deeper appreciation than you can pick up from documents," he promised.

In some ways he was right. My journey did leave me with a deeper understanding of Lincoln. But for all its pleasures, it also left me pondering some new questions about what I had seen and why it had been there for me to see in the first place—questions which sent me scrambling back to libraries and documents and books. It also left me wondering about what history is all about: the truth (as best we know it), or some convenient idea of the truth? Must we reject Fred Holmes's emotional reaction to the Lincoln cabin because he lavished his passion on a fraud? And how is any visit to the Springfield home enhanced because its 175-year-old nails, made obsolete by modern improvements, have been carefully returned to their original holes? I have posed these kinds of questions to a number of preservationists and histori-

ans, and no one has yet provided me with a satisfactory answer.

What I do know is that I keep going back to these places, and when my children get a little older, I hope to visit them again with the kids in tow. I truly love walking around the pretty park outside Hodgenville—fake cabin or no, this is, after all, the birthplace—though I don't always connect there with Lincoln the boy and with the frontier life that helped shape him (I've had better luck nearby at the Lincoln homestead on Knob Creek, or at the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial in southern Indiana).

As for the Springfield house—a place I have haunted perhaps more than any ghost of the martyred President (you may have seen me at dusk, hovering on the front steps, long after the crowds have gone)—I can't help but recall something said to me by Richard Lusardi, the site's pragmatic superintendent. When I asked him if he ever felt Lincoln's presence in the home, Lusardi balked. After I assured him I wasn't asking if he saw dead people, he paused and reconsidered my query. While he thought, I tried a different approach and asked if he ever talked to Lincoln.

"I probably don't want to admit it," Lusardi finally said, "but I do. I find myself asking, 'Abe, are we doing the right thing?' There is definitely an inspiration that emits from the home, an aura that is Lincoln.

"He's there."

Where to look for Lincoln—

• **Abraham Lincoln Birthplace:** 2995 Lincoln Farm Road, Hodgenville, Kentucky; (270) 358-3137 or www.nps.gov/abli, where you can also get information about Lincoln's Boyhood Home at Knob Creek Farm.

• **Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial:** 3027 East South Street, Lincoln City, Indiana; (812) 937-4541 or www.nps.gov/libo.

• **Lincoln's New Salem:** Route 97, Petersburg, Illinois; (217) 632-4000 or www.lincolnsnewsalem.com.

• **Lincoln Home:** Begin your tour at the Visitors Center, 426 South Seventh Street, Springfield, Illinois; (217) 492-4241, ext. 221, or www.nps.gov/liho. For information about the Lincoln-Herndon law office, the Lincoln Tomb, and other area Lincoln sites, contact the Springfield Illinois Convention & Visitors Bureau at (800) 545-7300 or www.visit-springfieldillinois.com.

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Lincoln Home National Historic Site

Dear Friends,

Lincoln Home National Historic Site is beginning the development of a general management plan. Just as its name implies, this plan will provide a general framework to guide park management decisions over the next 15-20 years. This framework will be based in part on a vision of what people wish to see at Lincoln Home in the future. We need your help in describing that vision and developing the overall management philosophy that will enable us to achieve it.

In developing the vision for the park's future, it is important first to review the park's purpose, its national significance, and the potential for public appreciation and enjoyment of the distinctive resources that Lincoln Home National Historic Site interprets and preserves. We will analyze the park's fundamental resources that are critical to achieving the park's purpose and maintaining its significance. Later steps in the planning process will describe specific desirable resource conditions and visitor goals for the site's future and will design alternate management strategies for achieving these goals. As part of our consultation process, we will meet with federal, state, and local government agencies and officials. We will also hold meetings and workshops to hear the ideas and concerns of the general public. Communication and cooperation with other government agencies, the local community, and the public will identify common interests and goals for the protection and preservation of this important national resource.

With your help, we can develop a plan that charts a sustainable future for Lincoln Home National Historic Site. Please share with us your thoughts, ideas, and vision for this historic resource. We will keep you informed throughout the planning process with periodic newsletters.

James A. Sanders
Superintendent
Lincoln Home National Historic Site

Purpose and Significance

The national historic site's purpose and significance provide a foundation upon which all planning and management decisions are based. Below are purpose and significance statements for Lincoln Home National Historic Site.

Purpose

The purpose statements clarify the reasons Lincoln Home National Historic Site was set aside as a unit of the national park system and provide the foundation for management and use of the monument. These statements are based on Lincoln Home's establishing legislation and National Park Service policies.



The purpose of Lincoln Home National Historic Site is to

- protect and preserve the Springfield home of Abraham Lincoln and the surrounding historic district as a meaningful setting for visitor understanding and appreciation
- interpret Abraham Lincoln and the significant impact his 17-year residency had on his emergence as a transcendent national and international figure for the benefit of present and future generations

Significance and Fundamental Resources

Significance statements relate directly to the fundamental resources of the site and express the importance of the site to our national and cultural heritage. Fundamental resources such as the Lincoln Home are critical to achieving the park's purpose and maintaining its significance. These resources are the primary consideration in all park planning and decision making. Understanding the national historic site's significance and fundamental resources will help managers make decisions that will preserve the values necessary to fulfill the site's purpose.

Lincoln Home National Historic Site is significant as a unit of the national park system for the following reasons:

- Abraham Lincoln and his family lived in this, the only house they ever owned, for the 17 years that were critical in his personal, professional, and political development.
- During these years Abraham Lincoln's legal career evolved from a small town law practice to a high level of sophistication, developing a prosperous law practice, serving one term in the U.S. House of Representatives, running for the U.S. Senate, and becoming a major force in the new Republican party and its presidential nominee in 1860.
- The home was the setting for many significant events associated with Abraham Lincoln's political career, including his preparation for the Lincoln-Douglas debates, his formal receiving of the Republican nomination for president, and the writing of at least part of his first inaugural address.
- In 1861 he left this house and Springfield, Illinois, to become the 16th president of the United States.

Primary Interpretive Themes

Primary interpretive themes are ideas and concepts about Abraham Lincoln and his Springfield home. These themes are based on the park's purpose and significance and provide the foundation for all exhibits, brochures, films, ranger talks, and tours that are critical to understanding and appreciating the national historic site's importance. The following theme statements will provide the basis for interpretation at the park:

- Abraham Lincoln believed in the ideal that everyone in America should have the opportunity to improve his/her economic and social condition. Lincoln's life was the embodiment of that ideal.
- Abraham Lincoln was a spouse, parent, and neighbor who experienced the same hopes, dreams, and challenges of life that are still experienced by many people.
- Many of Abraham Lincoln's social and political beliefs concerning equality, freedom, and opportunity came into focus while he lived in Springfield. We as a nation strive to fulfill Lincoln's legacy of national and individual ideals.
- People today – as they have since the time of Abraham Lincoln's death – visit his home as a place to memorialize his life, seek meaning from his struggles and achievements, and find inspiration for their own lives.



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Schedule

Planning Activity	Dates	Public Involvement Opportunities
1 Set the stage for planning (we are at this stage): Reaffirm purpose and significance; determine issues and concerns	Fall 2005 to Winter 2005	The public is invited to attend meetings and offer ideas using the options described in the box to the right
2 Develop Preliminary Alternatives: Identify a range of reasonable alternatives for the park's future, assess their effects, analyze public reactions, and select a preferred alternative	Winter 2005 to Fall 2006	Provide comments on the initial alternatives by using a response form. Attend public meetings and provide comments
3 Prepare and publish Draft General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement: Prepare draft describing the management alternatives and impacts; distribute to the public	Fall 2006 to Fall 2007	Provide written comments on the draft document. Attend public meetings and provide comments.
4 Revise and publish Final General Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement: Analyze comments, prepare responses to comments, revise draft document, distribute to the public	Fall 2007 to Fall 2008	
5 Implement the approved plan: Prepare and issue Record of Decision and implement plan as funding allows	Winter 2009 and beyond	Stay involved throughout the implementation of the approved plan. Let the park know what you think.

A Public Planning Effort

If you live in Springfield or the surrounding area, the planning team has scheduled two public open houses the week of November 7, 2005. We welcome your comments and suggestions and hope to see you at one of the meetings listed below.

Tuesday
November 8, 2005
7:00 PM

Lincoln Home NHS Visitor Center
426 South Seventh Street
Springfield, IL 62701-1905

Wednesday
November 9, 2005
7:00 PM

Lincoln Home NHS Visitor Center
426 South Seventh Street
Springfield, IL 62701-1905

How to be Involved

You can begin providing feedback by completing the enclosed comment form. Please let us know your thoughts and concerns regarding the issues and opportunities that should be addressed in the general management plan. Also please let us know if you would like to be included on the national historic site's mailing list. After you have finished filling out the postage-paid form, just fold and tape it and drop it in a mailbox.

You can also submit your comments electronically online at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?projectId=13436>. All newsletters will be posted on the website, along with a response form if you prefer to participate electronically.

You can also contact us with questions or comments any time at: Lincoln Home National Historic Site; 413 South Eighth Street; Springfield, IL. 62701-1905; 217-492-4241 x221.

